

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2011 6:07 PM  
**To:** Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting: request for follow-up per agency procedure

Bob,  
Did we follow up on this?  
500

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2011 12:18 PM  
**To:** Robert Fink  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting: request for follow-up per agency procedure

Thanks.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2011 11:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Raul Vega  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting

Hi!

Thanks very much for the sighting report and for the precise locality. We will follow up and see what we find. If you happened to get a photo, even if only one that suggests size relative to vegetation, a copy would be extremely helpful.

Tim: please keep me posted on follow-up.

Raul: if Tim is not in, could you ask Bob Fink or someone else to handle follow up? This sounds too good not to look into it as fast and as much as possible.

Thx, Terry  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:30 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas 2Jun2011.docx

Terry,

Aaron Miller (Wildlife Manager for the Santa Ritas Mountains area) and Jack Childs can go to the location where the sighting occurred early next week. Apparently is a remote area and they may have to go on horseback. Let me know if this will work

Raul

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:32 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Soft copy of report attached. Initialed and dated hard copy to follow, as will supplemental reports as more information is obtained.

Robert Fink  
Wildlife Program Manager  
Tucson Region

Arizona Game and Fish Department  
555 N Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Office : (520) 388-4441  
Fax: (520) 628-5080  
rfink@azgfd.gov

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Remember to support Arizona's OHV management efforts by purchasing the OHV Decal!!

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 10:36 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Leonard Ordway; Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Hi, Raul!

It was good info and I am looking forward to more. Patience has never been my virtue.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
Website http://azgfd.gov/  
\*\*\*\*\*

-----Original Message-----

From: Raul Vega  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 10:27 PM  
To: Terry Johnson  
Cc: Leonard Ordway; Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
Subject: RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Terry,  
We're still in the process of gathering additional information from BP, but be assured that all your questions will be answer and final information will be sent to you once we complete investigation. Considering that this information came in yesterday we made good progress today. For future reference and if Tim or Bob are not available because of other commitments please contact myself or person acting for me via phone call to ensure we provide appropriate information as soon as possible. My field staff including WMs can also assist with situations like this with a quick response.

Bob F,  
Please answer questions below and send response to Terry, I'll provide information I have so that you can incorporate to your report

Raul

-----Original Message-----

From: Terry Johnson  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 7:11 PM  
To: Raul Vega; Leonard Ordway  
Cc: Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
Subject: RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Thanks, Raul. Very helpful. Questions:

1. Has staff completed a sighting report (standard form)?
2. Has additional info from Border Patrol been incorporated into formal record?
3. Did staff follow up directly with reporting DHS employee and integrate all pertinent info into formal record?
4. Did staff initiate site visit to gather additional info, including digital photos of habitat at site of reported occurrence?
5. Did staff read critiques of jaguarundi report I just submitted to USFWS last week to ensure that this formal record does not suffer from weaknesses identified in jaguarundi reports.
6. If conscious decisions were made not to do one or more of #2 thru #4 above were those decisions appropriately explained (justified) in formal record, with at least one supervisory employee "signing off" on the decision(s)?
7. When will i get the completed formal record so i can process and disseminate it?
8. Is someone else (not me) critically pondering how we are handling this to help ensure that I am not missing any "crucial/essential" aspects or questions to address?

One of the major weaknesses in our jaguarundi records was failure of AGFD employees to initial and date information recorded. This greatly jeopardized our ability to challenge "reports/records" that other "authorities" had accepted at face value. Lesson learned: reported sightings, especially those that cannot be easily and definitively rejected, need to be handled with an LE "chain of evidence" mentality and an obsessive attention to gathering ALL potentially pertinent information while the scene is fresh and so is the memory of the eyewitness. They also need to keep in mind how fallible eyewitnesses are, regardless of their sincerity or motivation.

Phew, probably more than you bargained for when you invited me to flag any more needs!

Sent from my iPad. If necessary, I will follow up when I get to a computer. Thx, Terry B Johnson, Endangered Species Coordinator and Future Full-time Angler

-----Original Message-----

From: Raul Vega  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 06:35 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
To: Leonard Ordway  
Cc: Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
Subject: RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

All,

Attached is the file with coordinates for jaguar sighting. I provided same file in different formats so that you can view with program of your choice. The location of sighting is located in the Santa Rita Mountains about 8 miles NE of Patagonia Lake. This location is not within the boundaries of the Murphy Fire and still accessible by quad or by foot if necessary. I had a meeting with some of my staff today regarding this sighting to verify location; we also contacted Border Patrol to acquire additional information on this.

Terry,

Let me know if you need anything else

Leonard,

We can talk about this tomorrow when you down here for our regional meeting

Raul

From: Leonard Ordway  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 9:08 AM  
To: Raul Vega  
Cc: Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
Subject: RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Raul,

Please do the necessary coordination and follow-up on this ASAP (today) with Terry, etal.  
Thank you (and welcome back).

Leonard

From: Terry Johnson  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 8:09 AM  
To: Gary R. Hovatter; Leonard Ordway; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
Cc: Eric Gardner  
Subject: FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

FYI. Not looking for action, just trying to keep you posted.

See attached email for background on sighting. I have apprised Jack Childs of the sighting in case he hears about from other sources and gets other information.

Aside from the fact that the sighting seems credible (good and very plausible description of colors, pattern and behavior) in comparison to most reports, I think it is important to follow-up aggressively on this as a message to DHS that we really value their assistance in these matters. Their guy wasted no time getting the report to us and that is to be saluted.

Frankly, looking back a decade or more [REDACTED] does not have a track record of timely or quality participation in jaguar-related things. Raul would typically ensure follow-up but I am a little concerned about this one, given that Raul is tied up by fire issues. As always, and is true for anyone who takes a day or week off, Tim has chosen a bad time to be out of the office for a week!

If I do not hear from [REDACTED] this morning, I will follow-up directly with Raul.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

Endangered Species Coordinator

\*\*\*\*\*

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

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Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

From: Terry Johnson  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 7:46 AM  
To: Robert Fink  
Cc: Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner  
Subject: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Hi!

I am not in the office and do not have access to topos, so I am wondering what the location of this fire is relative to the DHS sighting reported yesterday. Could you please clarify that? Is the fire impeding follow-up on the sighting?

The sighting is sufficiently credible (in my informal, internal opinion) to warrant follow-up (with the DHS guy and probably on-the-ground) and sometime today, per SOP, I need to advise the appropriate internal and external entities as to what was reported and what we have at least preliminarily concluded about it. So, in Tim's absence, I am looking to hear from you pretty soon. Thanks.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

Endangered Species Coordinator

\*\*\*\*\*

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Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

From: Raul Vega  
Sent: Wednesday, June 08, 2011 7:18 AM  
To: MgmTeam  
Subject: FW: Murphy Fire AM Update for June 7, 2011

FYI. Most current update on the Murphy Fire

Raul

From: Mark A. Hart  
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 9:26 AM  
To: ALL @ Tucson  
Subject: FW: Murphy Fire AM Update for June 7, 2011

From: Murphy Fire [mailto:murphyfireinfo@gmail.com]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 9:27 AM  
To: undisclosed-recipients  
Subject: Murphy Fire AM Update for June 7, 2011

Fire Name: Murphy Fire/Pajarita Fire Morning Update for June 7, 2011

Time/Date Started: 3:28 pm, May 30, 2011

Location: Nogales Ranger District in the Coronado National Forest

Five miles east of Arivaca, Arizona and four miles west of Tubac, Arizona

Cause: Human-caused. Under investigation.

Fuels: Grass, shrub, oak, mesquite

Size: 50,122 acres

Percent Contained: 25%

Estimated Cost to Date: \$2,150,000

Resources Threatened: Areas surrounding Ruby Road.

Structures Lost: None

Resources Committed: Cooperating Agencies: USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, Arizona State Forestry Division, Arivaca Fire District, Elephant Head Volunteer Fire Department, Patagonia Volunteer Fire Department, Rio Rico Fire District, Tubac Fire District,

U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Road Closures: In order to support the fire operation and for public safety, the following road closures are effective immediately: State Highway 289 (Ruby Road) from I19 and Forest Road 39 (Ruby Road) from Arivaca is closed until further notice.

Predicted Weather: Temperatures will be cooler today at 88-95 degrees, relative humidity will decrease at 5-10 percent, with south winds in the morning 3-6 mph, becoming southwest 10-15 mph later in the day, and gusts to 25 mph in the afternoon and evening.

Restrictions: Steep rocky terrain and unseasonably dry fuels are resulting in long fire runs and long range spotting. Fast moving Pajarita Fire combined with high gusty winds made fire suppression difficult today.

Concerns: The Pajarita Fire started on Sunday and traveled aggressively in a northeastern direction towards the Murphy Fire. Yesterday at approximately 5pm the head of the Pajarita Fire merged with the Murphy Fire near Walker Canyon at the El Paso Gas Line Road. Concerns for the Team include keeping the fire out of Sycamore Canyon and keeping adjacent neighborhoods safe from spot fire ignitions.

Summary: The incident strategy for today will focus on holding the fire on the southwest corner as fire crews work to prevent spread to the west and also keeping it out of Sycamore Canyon. Air operations may support the fire effort of the Murphy/Pajarita Fire that has crossed over into Mexico. Burn out operations last night, along with air support, were successful in catching the fire and preventing it from spreading east into the community of Rio Rico.

Hi!

Thanks very much for the sighting report and for the precise locality. We will follow up and see what we find. If you happened to get a photo, even if only one that suggests size relative to vegetation, a copy would be extremely helpful.

Tim: please keep me posted on follow-up.

Raul: if Tim is not in, could you ask Bob Fink or someone else to handle follow up? This sounds too good not to look into it as fast and as much as possible.

Thx, Terry

\*\*\*\*\*

Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 6:49 AM  
To: Send Comments  
Subject: Jaguar sighting

Name: [REDACTED]  
City: Oro Valley  
State: AZ  
Zip: 85755  
Area: Tucson



Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Jaguar sighting

Comment: While flying low level in a [REDACTED] helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was [REDACTED] in the Sonoyta area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill ahead of the fleeing smugglers. The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED]

Type: Other

Regarding: Other

Phone: [REDACTED]

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 1:53 PM  
**To:** Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

**Importance:** High

Bob,  
Something we need to discuss, I'm in the middle of coordinating fire stuff, first aid training, LE training (all today). I'll get Brad started on this, but he's also in training and need your help....  
Raul

**From:** Leonard Ordway  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 9:08 AM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Raul,  
Please do the necessary coordination and follow-up on this ASAP (today) with Terry, etal. Thank you (and welcome back).  
Leonard

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 8:09 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Leonard Ordway; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

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See attached email for background on sighting. I have apprised Jack Childs of the sighting in case he hears about from other sources and gets other information.

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If I do not hear from [REDACTED] this morning, I will follow-up directly with Raul.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Bob Lemons  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 3:58 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Cc:** 'robert.gumtow@dhs.gov'  
**Subject:** Jaguar 6-2-2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar 6-2-2011.kml; Jaguar 6-2-2011.gpx; Jaguar Map 3, 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Map 1 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Map 2, 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Sighting 6-2-2011.tpo

Here is the file with coordinates and map for a jaguar sighting. These files are all the same thing just saved in different formats.

**Bob Lemons**

Wildlife Manager, Unit 37A

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
555 N Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Tucson Regional Office (520) 628-5376  
Home Office (520) 877-4360  
[blemons@azgfd.gov](mailto:blemons@azgfd.gov)

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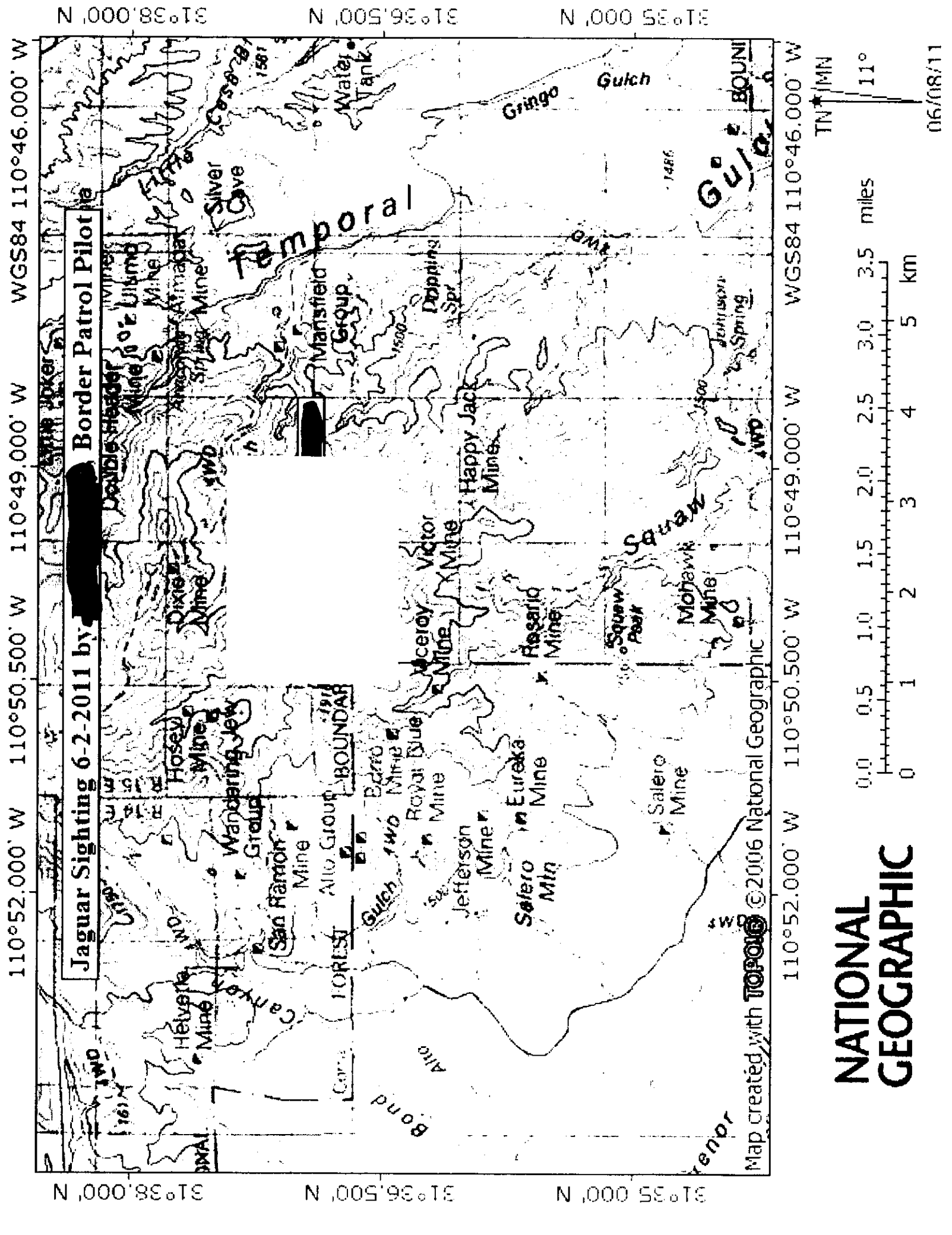
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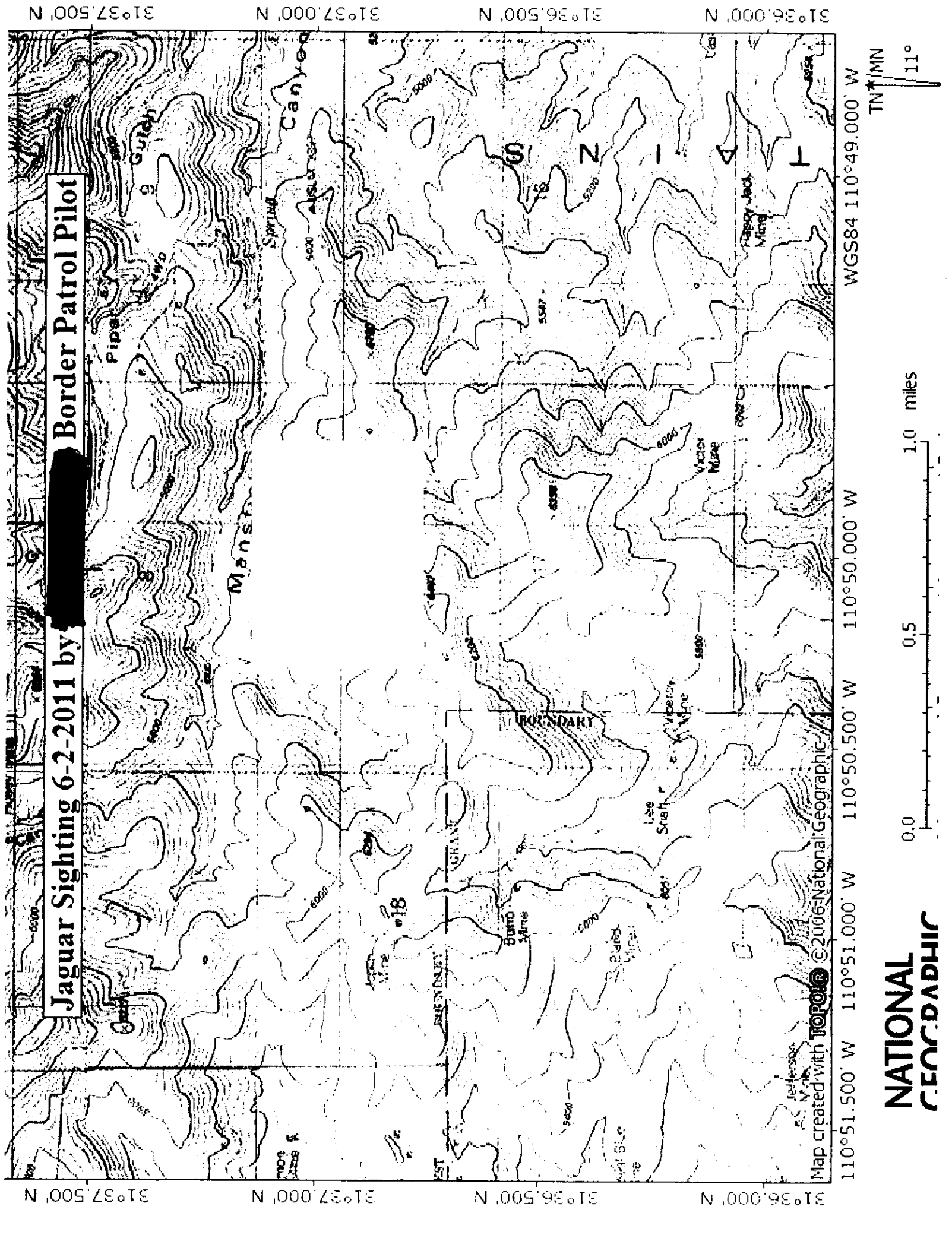
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Jaguar Sighting 6-2-2011 by [REDACTED] Border Patrol Pilot

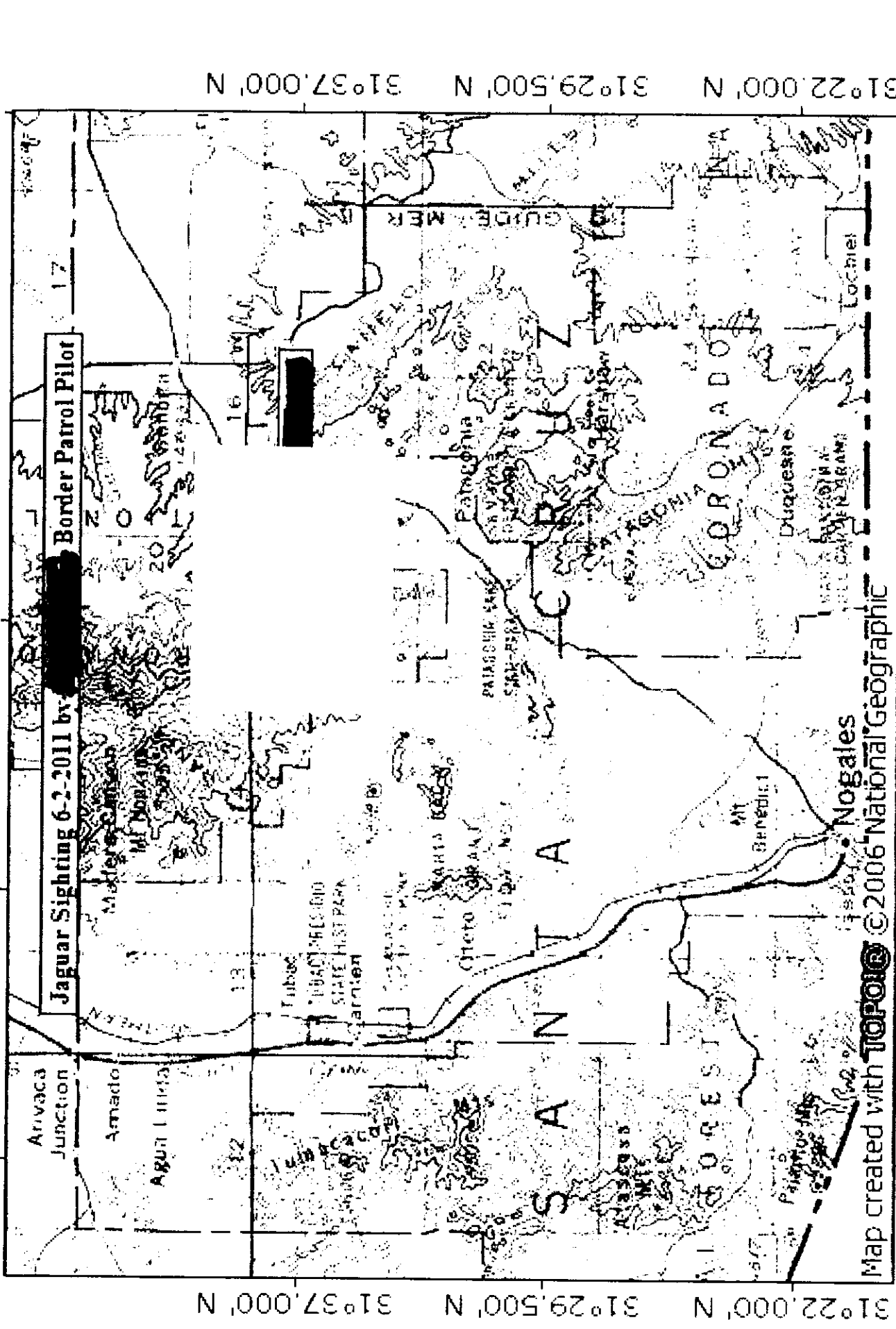


NATIONAL  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

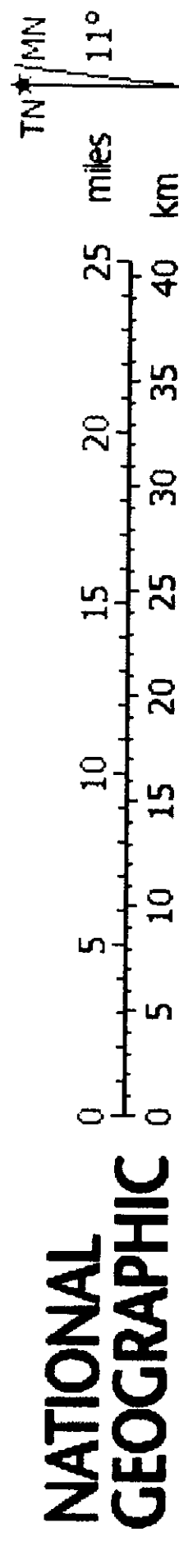
Map created with Topo 2006 National Geographic

110°51.500' W 110°51.000' W 110°50.500' W 110°50.000' W 110°49.000' W WGS84

TN 11°



111°07.500' W 110°58.000' W 110°48.500' W WGS84 110°30.500' W



**NATIONAL  
GEOGRAPHIC**

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:51 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar 6-2-2011.kml; Jaguar 6-2-2011.gpx; Jaguar Map 3, 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Map 1 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Map 2, 6-2-2011.JPG; Jaguar Sighting 6-2-2011.tpo

Thanks, Mark and Bob. I will continue compiling as the information flows in and start notifying USFWS et al. of where we are.

The low-tech jpeg files work for me and the kml file opens to generic Google Earth (or am I missing embedded sighting information) but what program should I be using to open the gpx and tpo files? I know from below they all show the same thing but I am curious to see what each one looks like.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7356  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
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\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:34 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

**From:** Bob Lemons  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 3:58 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Cc:** 'robert.gumtow@dhs.gov'  
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Wildlife Manager, Unit 37A

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
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## Michelle Black

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**From:** Leonard Ordway  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:58 AM  
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**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar 6-2-2011

Google earth for those kml files.

Leonard Ordway, Asst. Dir.

Field Ops., AZ G & F Dept.

5000 W. Carefree Hwy.

Phoenix, AZ 85086

(623) 236-7293 - Ofc

(623) 850-2319 - Cell

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 07:51 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

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Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator

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## Michelle Black

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**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:29 AM  
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**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar 6-2-2011

I spoke to USBP Pilot [REDACTED] this morning about the sighting. He observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. He observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. He described it as larger than a mountain lion, of which has seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, he could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. He said that he is certain about what he saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance.

[REDACTED] said that the cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by his low-level flight in pursuit of UDAs. The cat was last seen headed westbound on the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
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Tucson, AZ 85745  
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cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator

## Michelle Black

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 9:51 AM  
**To:** FWS Steven L Spangle; FWS Erin Fernandez; FWS Wendy Brown; FWS Frank Solis; FWS Edward Meyers; FWS Nick Chavez; FS Jim Upchurch; FS Jim Copeland; FS Don G DeLorenzo; FS Bobbi L Barrera; USDA-WS David L Bergman  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Brian Wakeling; Chantal OBrien; Mark Weise; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Bob Lemons; Robert Fink; Brac Fulk; Jim Heffelfinger; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheio; Mike Senn; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; NMDGF RJ Kirkpatrick; NMDGF James N Stuart  
**Subject:** Jaguar: POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Map 1 6-2-2011.jpg; Jaguar Map 2, 6-2-2011.jpg; Jaguar Map 3, 6-2-2011.jpg; 04034 Permit - 4 pages per sheet and cover letter 2011.01.10.pdf; BO 2010.10.04.pdf; 047034 Signed Permit.pdf; 047034 Signed letter - Voyles.pdf

Hi!

This message is to apprise you of a POSSIBLE jaguar sighting this week on the south side of the Santa Rita Mountains. I stress POSSIBLE but so far the report is looking pretty credible in terms of observer, location and details. As a formal record for this report is developed, including follow-up work by AGFD Region 5 staff and evaluation at the Regional and Phoenix levels, I will keep you apprised of any further significant developments, pro or con. For now, the attached map and the following summary will need to suffice. Statements (paraphrased for brevity) from [REDACTED]:

While flying low level in a CBP helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was [REDACTED] in the Sonoyta [sic. Sonoita] area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill ahead of the fleeing smugglers. The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED]. I observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. I observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. Unfortunately no pics were taken. It was larger than a mountain lion, of which I have seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, I could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. I am certain about what I saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance. The cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by the low-level flight in pursuit of UDAs. The cat was last seen headed westbound o the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

Kudos to [REDACTED] for timely reporting and for providing solid details about the observation!

One of the possibilities that will be evaluated is whether the cat might have been a large juvenile mountain lion in which the spots are persistent. Not necessarily a solid possibility but it is one that AGFD folks with relevant expertise will consider as they work through this report.

Mark Hart of AGFD's Tucson office is coordinating follow-up for Regional Supervisor Raul Vega. Several other employees are involved. We look forward to having sufficient information shortly to make a solid call on whether this sighting is sufficiently credible to warrant any more extensive follow-up on the ground.

With this message, I am also apprising AGFD work units of the need to ensure that any wildlife management activities the Department is conducting or authorizing in the subject area are fully compliant with the Department's state and federal authorities, permits, etc. For your convenience, I have attached copies of the relevant authorizations. Any questions about those authorizations should be directed to Eric Gardner, who administers the Departments ESA Section 6 program and our Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit from USFWS.

Thx, Terry

\*\*\*\*\*

Terry B. Johnson

Endangered Species Coordinator

Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 West Carefree Highway

Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)

Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:14 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 8:29 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar 6-2-2011

I spoke to [REDACTED] this morning about the sighting. He observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. He observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. He described it as larger than a mountain lion, of which has seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, he could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. He said that he is certain about what he saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance.

[REDACTED] said that the cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by his low-level flight [REDACTED]. The cat was last seen headed westbound o the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:51 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bob Lemons; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

Thanks, Mark and Bob. I will continue compiling as the information flows in and start notifying USFWS et al. of where we are.

The low-tech jpeg files work for me and the kml file opens to generic Google Earth (or am I missing embedded sighting information) but what program should I be using to open the qpx and tpo files? I know from below they all show the same thing but I am curious to see what each one looks like.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 7:34 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

**From:** Bob Lemons  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 3:58 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Jaguar 6-2-2011

Here is the file with coordinates and map for a jaguar sighting. These files are all the same thing just saved in different formats.

**Bob Lemons**

Wildlife Manager, Unit 37A

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
555 N Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Tucson Regional Office (520) 628-5376  
Home Office (520) 877-4360  
[blemons@azgfd.gov](mailto:blemons@azgfd.gov)

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***Remember to support Arizona's OHV management efforts by purchasing the OHV Decal!!***

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

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 Public Information Officer  
 Arizona Game & Fish Department  
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 Tucson, AZ 85745  
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 cell (520) 282-0978  
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 Mhart@azgfd.gov

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 Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Facebook page  
 Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Twitter page

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 1:03 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

The region will have to chime in hear, but I do not believe a follow-up field investigation occurred. I believe the decision was left to the Region. My information indicates we became aware of the sighting on the 9<sup>th</sup> (a full week post-observation). Along with the remote location and small probability of any physical evidence likely to be found, I would not think a field investigation was warranted, but that does not mean one did not occur. Mark?

Regardless, the Department did follow up with a verbal inquiry to get additional details, which likely led to or reinforced the Class I-7 determination.

**Eric Gardner****From:** Terry Johnson**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:35 PM

**To:** FWS Steven L Spangle; FWS Erin Fernandez; FWS Wendy Brown; FWS Jean Calhoun; FWS Frank Solis; FWS Nick Chavez; FS Jim Upchurch; FS Jim Copeland; FS Don G DeLorenzo; FS Bobbi L Barrera; USDA-WS David L Bergman; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Brian Wakeling; Chantal OBrien; Mark Weise; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Bob Lemons; Robert Fink; Brad Fulk; Jim Heffelfinger; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; NMDGF RJ Kirkpatrick; NMDGF James N Stuart; Larry Voyles; NMDGF Tod W Stevenson

**Subject:** Jaguar: your personal assistance is needed in revising available information on possible sighting

Earlier today I included you in a message about a possible jaguar sighting in Arizona on June 2. The message included material that inappropriately referenced the person who reported the potential sighting. The nature of his duties requires a level of anonymity that is broached by the labels in the maps and extracted information in the cover message. The reporting individual had no idea how broadly his report would be

On behalf of AGFD, I request that you:

1. Recall any re-distribution of the information provided today.
2. Redact the appropriate information on any file copies (electronic or hard copy) you have retained or distributed.
3. Replace the original message and its attachments with the revised copies that will come to you later today or tomorrow.
  - a. A revised "notification message" will come to you shortly.
  - b. Revised maps etc. will come along soon, perhaps as early as tomorrow.

Your assistance in this will be greatly appreciated.

Thx, Terry

\*\*\*\*\*

Terry B. Johnson  
 Endangered Species Coordinator  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department  
 5000 West Carefree Highway  
 Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 6:03 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar: field follow-up on possible June 2 sighting

10-4, we'll do..  
Raul Vega  
Sent using BlackBerry

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 05:50 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** Jaguar: field follow-up on possible June 2 sighting

That kind of field follow-up will work!

Per the message I just sent a few minutes ago, the attached report should be revised and/or redacted to protect the identity of the observer. The individual has asked to be identified only as a "Government Helicopter Pilot." No name, email address, agency affiliation, or personal information (town of residence, phone number). I could do that but it seemed more appropriate for Region 5 to do it and then send the true final to me, with the other revised/redacted supporting materials, so I can disseminate them as necessary.

If anyone has questions about this, call me or send an email but the less email about the identity issue the better.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:30 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Terry,  
Aaron Miller (Wildlife Manager for the Santa Ritas Mountains area) and Jack Childs can go to the location where the sighting occurred early next week. Apparently is a remote area and they may have to go on horseback. Let me know if this will work

Raul



-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Fink

Sent: Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:32 PM

To: Terry Johnson

Cc: Raul Vega; Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway

Subject: RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Soft copy of report attached. Initialed and dated hard copy to follow, as will supplemental reports as more information is obtained.

Robert Fink

Wildlife Program Manager

Tucson Region

Arizona Game and Fish Department

555 N Greasewood Road

Tucson, AZ 85745

Office : (520) 388-4441

Fax: (520) 628-5080

[rfink@azgfd.gov](mailto:rfink@azgfd.gov)

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## Michelle Black

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:50 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** Jaguar: field follow-up on possible June 2 sighting  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas 2Jun2011.docx

That kind of field follow-up will work!

Per the message I just sent a few minutes ago, the attached report should be revised and/or redacted to protect the identity of the observer. The individual has asked to be identified only as a "Government Helicopter Pilot." No name, email address, agency affiliation, or personal information (town of residence, phone number). I could do that but it seemed more appropriate for Region 5 to do it and then send the true final to me, with the other revised/redacted supporting materials, so I can disseminate them as necessary.

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Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
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**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:30 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Terry,  
Aaron Miller (Wildlife Manager for the Santa Ritas Mountains area) and Jack Childs can go to the location where the sighting occurred early next week. Apparently is a remote area and they may have to go on horseback. Let me know if this will work

Raul

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:32 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Soft copy of report attached. Initialed and dated hard copy to follow, as will supplemental reports as more information is obtained.

Robert Fink  
Wildlife Program Manager

Tucson Region

Arizona Game and Fish Department  
555 N Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
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**Arizona Game and Fish Department  
Jaguar/Ocelot Sighting Report**

Interviewer Aaron Miller Date June 9, 2011  
Observer (Name) [REDACTED] Telephone (H) [REDACTED]  
(W) [REDACTED]  
Address [REDACTED] Occupation Border Patrol Pilot  
Recreational/Outdoor Experience Wildlife Degree/Work experience Additional Observers N/A  
Original report date 6/7/2011 Reported via: Phone X e-mail/letter in person  
Sighting date 6/2/2011 Report received by Terry Johnson Agency AZGFD

**Observation:**

Location (state, county, legal description, UTM, etc.): GMU 34A, Santa Cruz County, [REDACTED]  
South of Juniper flat north face of Mansfield Canyon.

Describe site (habitat, land use, visibility, etc.): Very thick brush/oak.

Describe the occurrence: Seen once moving through brush. helicopter turned around and possible jaguar seen running quickly down hill through thick oak/brush.

Time of day 10:45 AM Duration (total time of observation) [REDACTED]  
Location of the sun to observer: overhead behind animal behind observer  
Number of animals seen 1 Distance from observer 50-100ft Optical aids used No Photo (Y or N) [REDACTED]

**Description of animal (color, size, markings, tail, etc.):**

Body (larger than German shepherd, etc) Large cat, much larger than bobcat, similar or larger to other mt lions seen by RP.

Tail (longer or shorter than body) Longer Head/Face Unknown

Legs/Feet N/A Other: Burnt orange in color with obvious spotting.

Behavior of animal: Motionless followed by running downhill into thick brush/oak.

Other signs observed (scat, tracks, prey remains, etc.) [REDACTED]

Observer's first impression: Did not look like a mt lion. Possible Jaguar. Looked at pictures later and believes sighting was of a Jaguar.

Actions/Follow-up [REDACTED]

This is the text of the original email first notifying AGFD of the sighting:

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 6:49 AM  
To: Send Comments  
Subject: Jaguar sighting

Name: [REDACTED]  
City: Oro Valley  
State: AZ  
Zip: 85755  
Area: Tucson  
Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Jaguar sighting  
Comment: While flying low level in a CBP helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was [REDACTED] in the Sonoyta area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill ahead of the fleeing smugglers. The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED]  
Type: Other  
Regarding: Other  
Phone: [REDACTED]

**On June 9, 2011 at 0829 hours, AGFD PIO Mark Hart documented the following phone conversation with the reporting party:**

I spoke to [REDACTED] this morning about the sighting. He observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. He observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. He described it as larger than a mountain lion, of which has seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, he could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. He said that he is certain about what he saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance.

[REDACTED] said that the cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by his low-level flight in pursuit of UDAs. The cat was last seen headed westbound o the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department

555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978

fax (520) 628-5376

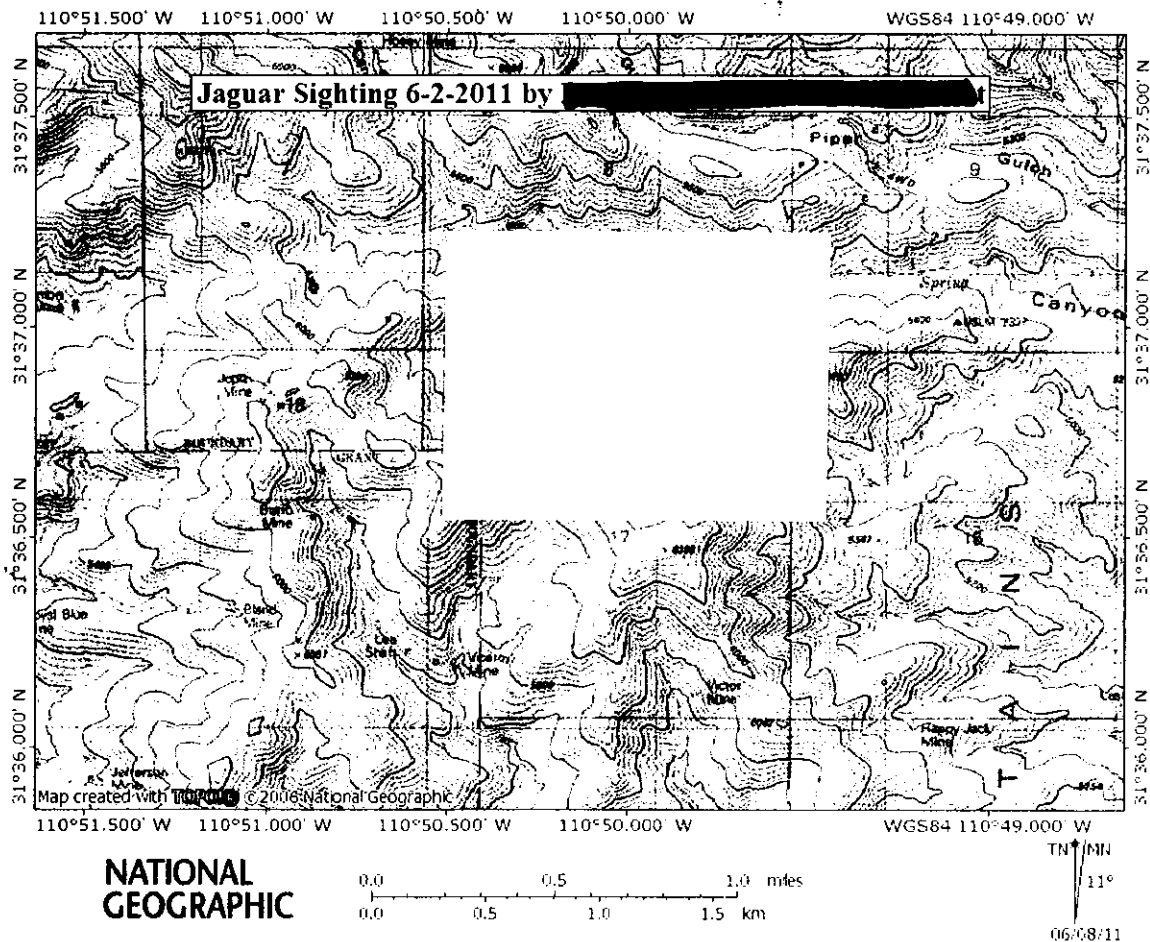
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

**On June 9, 2011 at approximately 1400 hours, AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller documented the following phone conversation with the reporting party:**

6/9/11

At approximately 2:00PM Wildlife Manager Aaron MILLER spoke with RP regarding location of sighting. RP told MILLER that he has a wildlife degree and was offered a position with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources in the past. He has extensive experience with wildlife and has seen many bobcats and mt lions during his flights.

After speaking with the RP, MILLER contacted Jack CHILDS to inquire about remote camera placements. MILLER and CHILDS will visit the sighting location and look for scat or other sign as well as possibly leaving remote trail cameras to help document any evidence supporting the RP's sighting, and to take photos to document the habitat characteristics.



## Arizona Game and Fish Department Jaguar/Ocelot Sighting Report

Interviewer Aaron Miller Date June 9, 2011  
 Observer (Name) Government Helicopter Pilot Telephone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation Government Helicopter Pilot  
 Recreational/Outdoor Experience Wildlife Degree/Work experience Additional Observers N/A  
 Original report date 6/7/2011 Reported via: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone X e-mail/letter \_\_\_\_\_ in person  
 Sighting date 6/2/2011 Report received by Terry Johnson Agency AZGFD

**Observation:**

Location (state, county, legal description, UTM, etc.): GMU 34A, Santa Cruz County, [REDACTED]  
South of Juniper flat north face of Mansfield Canyon.

Describe site (habitat, land use, visibility, etc.) Very thick brush/oak.

Describe the occurrence: Seen once moving through brush, helicopter turned around and possible jaguar seen running quickly down hill through thick oak/brush.

Time of day 10:45 AM Duration (total time of observation) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Location of the sun to observer: \_\_\_\_\_ overhead \_\_\_\_\_ behind animal \_\_\_\_\_ behind observer  
 Number of animals seen 1 Distance from observer 50-100ft Optical aids used No Photo (Y or N)

**Description of animal (color, size, markings, tail, etc.):**

Body (larger than German shepherd, etc) Large cat, much larger than bobcat, similar or larger to other mt lions seen by RP.

Tail (longer or shorter than body) Longer Head/Face Unknown

Legs/Feet N/A Other: Burnt orange in color with obvious spotting.

Behavior of animal: Motionless followed by running downhill into thick brush/oak.

Other signs observed (scat, tracks, prey remains, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Observer's first impression: Did not look like a mountain lion. Possible Jaguar. Looked at pictures later and believes sighting was of a Jaguar.

Actions/Follow-up Report completed by Robert Fink and Aaron Miller

This is the text of the original email first notifying AGFD of the sighting. Parenthesis indicate redacted content:

From: ()  
Sent: Tuesday, June 07, 2011 6:49 AM  
To: Send Comments  
Subject: Jaguar sighting

Name: ()  
City: ()  
State: AZ ()  
Zip: ()  
Area: ()  
Email: ()

Subject: Jaguar sighting

Comment: While flying low level in a () helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was () in the Sonoyta area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill (). The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED]

Type: Other

Regarding: Other

Phone: ()

**On approximately June 7, 2011 at hours, AGFD Endangered Species Coordinator Terry Johnson documented the following phone conversation with the reporting party. Parenthesis indicate redacted content:**

While flying low level in a () helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was () in the Sonoyta [sic. Sonoita] area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill (). The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED] I observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. I observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. Unfortunately no pics were taken. It was larger than a mountain lion, of which I have seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, I could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. I am certain about what I saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance. The cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by the low-level flight (). The cat was last seen headed westbound o the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

**On June 9, 2011 at 0829 hours, AGFD PIO Mark Hart documented the following phone conversation with the reporting party. Parenthesis indicate redacted content:**

I spoke to (RP) this morning about the sighting. He observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. He observed the cat primarily from above, getting as close as 100 feet. He described it as larger than a mountain lion, of which has seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, he could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. He said that he is certain about what he saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance.



(RP) said that the cat's movements were unlikely caused by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by his low-level flight (). The cat was last seen headed westbound on the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

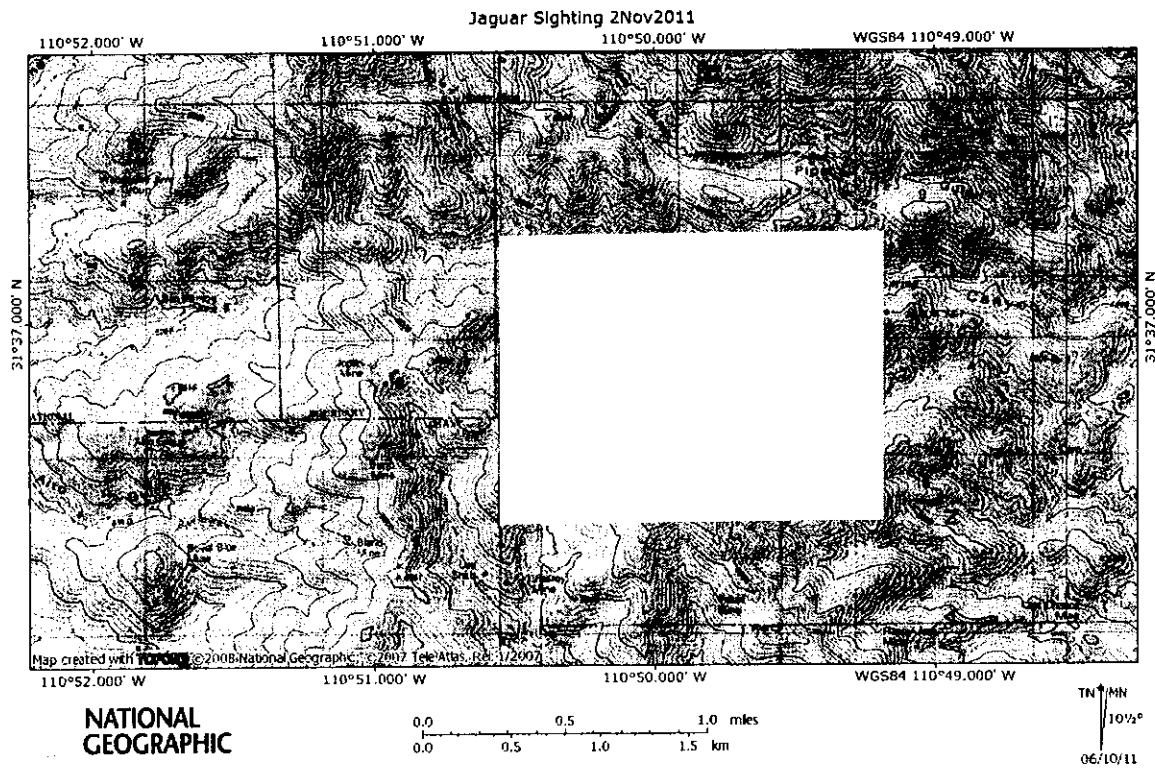
Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745

**On June 9, 2011 at approximately 1400 hours, AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller documented the following phone conversation with the reporting party. Parenthesis indicate redacted content:**

6/9/11

At approximately 2:00PM Wildlife Manager Aaron MILLER spoke with RP regarding location of sighting. RP told MILLER that he has a wildlife degree and was offered a position with the () in the past. He has extensive experience with wildlife and has seen many bobcats and mountain lions during his flights.

After speaking with the RP, MILLER contacted Jack CHILDS to inquire about remote camera placements. MILLER and CHILDS will visit the sighting location and look for scat or other sign as well as possibly leaving remote trail cameras to help document any evidence supporting the RP's sighting, and to take photos to document the habitat characteristics.



On June 17, AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller submitted the following verification trip report with photos:

This morning 6/17/11 at approximately 6:00AM I investigated the area of the Jaguar sighting in 34A. I walked up Mansfield Canyon beyond the sighting location as well as up a small wash just west of the reported sighting. Despite having some great locations to observe tracks (multiple sandy points along the canyon bottom) no jaguar or mt lion tracks were observed. I attached some pictures of the GPS points provided by the RP and surrounding habitat. In the picture labeled habitat1 the GPS point for the sighting is [REDACTED]. The RP stated it was on a north facing slope. That could be on the facing ridge in the photo, or on the west side of middle ridge in the photo. There are multiple seeps and water pockets along Mansfield Canyon although with all the mining activity, I'm not sure how suitable the water is for wildlife. I know the lower canyon has been designated a Superfund site. I will try and visit the top of the ridge and the exact GPS sighting location as soon as I have the time. Not sure how useful trail cams would be, but we can put some out if it is decided to be necessary.

Habitat 1:



Habitat 2:



**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Kurt Bahti [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2011 7:09 PM  
**To:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar 6-2-2011

I couldn't open the file. How about just send the UTM/lat-long?

**From:** Aaron Miller [<mailto:AMiller@azgfd.gov>]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 16, 2011 4:51 PM  
**To:** Kurt Bahti  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

Kurt,

Here's the area we'll be exploring tomorrow AM. I'll see you in the morning.

**Aaron Miller**  
Wildlife Manager  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
555 W. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 591-5960

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**From:** Bob Lemons  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 4:18 PM  
**To:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar 6-2-2011

**From:** Bob Lemons  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 3:58 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Robert Fink; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Jaguar 6-2-2011

Here is the file with coordinates and map for a jaguar sighting. These files are all the same thing just saved in different formats.

*Bob Lemons*  
Wildlife Manager, Unit 37A

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
555 N Greasewood Road

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:13 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 8:55 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting

Agent [REDACTED] at this point we have spoken with the pilot who has provided an excellent account. He will remain anonymous.

Nonetheless, if you have any more for us other than his account, please advise.

Thanks,

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 4:41 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting

Mark we are looking into it hopefully I can get you some feedback today or in the morning

(A) SBPA Mario Escalante  
Public Affairs Officer  
Tucson Sector Communications Division  
o 520.748.3041  
c 520.471.5851

**From:** Mark A. Hart [mailto:MHart@azgfd.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 3:26 PM  
**To:** ESCALANTE, MARIO L  
**Subject:** Fw: Jaguar sighting

As discussed, seeking any more information, especially location relative to Murphy Fire. Thank you.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 08, 2011 02:18 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** Fw: Jaguar sighting

Raul Vega  
Sent using BlackBerry

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2011 11:56 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Raul Vega  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting

Hi!

Thanks very much for the sighting report and for the precise locality. We will follow up and see what we find. If you happened to get a photo, even if only one that suggests size relative to vegetation, a copy would be extremely helpful.

Tim: please keep me posted on follow-up.

Raul: if Tim is not in, could you ask Bob Fink or someone else to handle follow up? This sounds too good not to look into it as fast and as much as possible.

Thx, Terry

\*\*\*\*\*

Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 07, 2011 6:49 AM  
**To:** Send Comments  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting

Name: [REDACTED]  
City: Oro Valley

State: AZ

Zip: 85755

Area: Tucson

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Jaguar sighting

Comment: While flying low level in a [REDACTED] helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was [REDACTED] in the Sonoyta area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill ahead of the fleeing smugglers. The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED]

Type: Other

Regarding: Other

Phone: [REDACTED]

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Friday, June 10, 2011 11:48 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Raul Vega; Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: field follow-up on possible June 2 sighting  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011.docx

Redacted file attached.

R Fink

---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thu 6/9/2011 5:50 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** Jaguar: field follow-up on possible June 2 sighting

That kind of field follow-up will work!

Per the message I just sent a few minutes ago, the attached report should be revised and/or redacted to protect the identity of the observer. The individual has asked to be identified only as a "Government Helicopter Pilot." No name, email address, agency affiliation, or personal information (town of residence, phone number). I could do that but it seemed more appropriate for Region 5 to do it and then send the true final to me, with the other revised/redacted supporting materials, so I can disseminate them as necessary.

If anyone has questions about this, call me or send an email but the less email about the identity issue the better.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
\*\*\*\*\*

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:30 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk; Mark Frieberg; Tim Snow; Leonard Ordway; Mike Senn; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Location of Murphy Fire relative to jaguar sighting reported yesterday

Terry,  
Aaron Miller (Wildlife Manager for the Santa Ritas Mountains area) and Jack Childs can go to the location where the sighting occurred early next week. Apparently is a remote area and they may have to go on horseback. Let me know if this will work

Raul

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 4:32 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson



**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 27, 2011 1:55 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** FW: jaguar sighting in Santa Ritas

**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011.docx

Terry – I don't think you have replied to [REDACTED] yet and I wanted to run this reply by you before sending my reply to Larry Jones (FS). Attached is the redacted report. Do you typically share these with the FS? Note that it has coordinates and other fairly specific site location information in the text. It may be that a simple response saying that we classified the report he is asking about as a Class II, without the attachment, would be all he really needs.

But, wanted your advice...

Thanks, Eric.

Larry,  
 Sorry for the delay as I am just now catching up on several emails from last week.

AGFD has assigned the report a ranking of II-7 (possible jaguar), under our current system. If unfamiliar with the system, here is the relevant excerpt:

**CLASS II** -- Detailed information of the observation is provided but does not include any physical evidence of a jaguar. Class II observations are considered "probable" or "possible" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence. Field investigations will be attempted, to the extent possible, by the respective state wildlife agency to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence.

- 7** An experienced observer who is familiar with wildlife (especially large mammals) in the area, and spends many hours in the field, provides a detailed report of a jaguar sighting. No physical evidence is provided. Examples of an experienced observer include: biologist, trapper, hunting guide, naturalist, or resident rancher/ranch hand.
- 6** An observer who may not be familiar with many wild mammals, but is accustomed to looking for details and spending many hours in the field, provides an accurate description of a jaguar. Examples of a detailed observer include: bird watcher, rock collector, land surveyor, or border patrol or other non-wildlife law enforcement agent.
- 5** An observer who may not be "experienced in the outdoors," but seems reliable, provides sufficient details to suggest that a jaguar was observed.

Regarding the following: By the by, and pardon my ignorance, are there any likely extant Jaguars in SE AZ or Peloncillos area (the aforementioned record notwithstanding) that you are aware of?

AGFD has no current, confirmed records of a jaguar or jaguars occupying SW AZ or the Peloncillos specifically.

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 06, 2011 2:07 PM  
**To:** 'Jones, Larry'  
**Cc:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Report of possible jaguar in Santa Ritas

Larry,  
The report was for an animal seen near Mansfield Canyon in the Santa Ritas.

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
Work: (623) 236-7507

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**From:** Jones, Larry [mailto:ljones02@fs.fed.us]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2011 4:00 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: jaguar sighting in Santa Ritas

Thanks Eric, that is what I need (Terry's email was rejected...didn't know he retired). For the location of this II-7, is it "fuzzed" in the Santa Ritas or is there a more precise locality that could be mentioned in a record subject to FOIA? Fuzzed is fine, actually, but I never turn away info.

**Larry Jones**  
Biologist  
Climate Change Coordinator  
SW PARC Senior Chair  
Coronado National Forest  
300 W Congress  
Tucson, AZ 85701

520-388-8375  
ljones02@fs.fed.us

**From:** Eric Gardner [mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 04, 2011 3:34 PM  
**To:** Jones, Larry  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: jaguar sighting in Santa Ritas

Larry,

Sorry for the delay as I am just now catching up on several emails from two weeks ago. I don't see anything indicating that Terry Johnson got back to you before he retired last week. Not surprising as he had several time consuming tasks to wrap up prior to his retirement date, so wanted to make sure I get back to you.

Regarding the report you asked about, the AGFD has assigned it a ranking of II-7 (possible jaguar), under our current system.

**CLASS II** -- Detailed information of the observation is provided but does not include any physical evidence of a jaguar. Class II observations are considered "probable" or "possible" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence. Field investigations will be attempted, to the extent possible, by the respective state wildlife agency to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence.

- 7 An experienced observer who is familiar with wildlife (especially large mammals) in the area, and spends many hours in the field, provides a detailed report of a jaguar sighting. No physical evidence is provided. Examples of an experienced observer include: biologist, trapper, hunting guide, naturalist, or resident rancher/ranch hand.

No additional information or evidence was gathered to further corroborate the information provided in the initial report, therefore the sighting is considered "possible". Physical evidence is required to classify the sighting as Class I.

**CLASS I** -- Some sort of physical evidence is provided for verification. Class I reports are considered "verified" or "highly probable" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence.

Regarding the following: *By the by, and pardon my ignorance, are there any likely extant Jaguars in SE AZ or Peloncillos area (the aforementioned record notwithstanding) that you are aware of?*

AGFD has no current, confirmed records of a jaguar or jaguars currently (or recently) occupying SW AZ or the Peloncillos.

Finally, I am not sure how to respond to your request for personal communication to be used within a biological assessment. We take reports of wildlife sightings and, in the case of things like jaguars and ocelots, attempt to classify them. However, without physical evidence, it is impossible to truly verify if a sighting is real or not. We are aware of multiple instances when a credible, educated person has reported a wildlife sighting that turns out to not be accurate. Evaluating and ranking sightings without physical evidence may indicate a trend or cause us to investigate an area further, but it does not prove presence of an animal. You can certainly indicate AGFD took such a report and that our classification system ranked it as a Class II-7, or possible jaguar, sighting. I will be curious to see what weight that type of data can carry in a B.A.

Thanks. Give me a call if you have any questions.

Eric Gardner

2/2/2012

Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
Work: (623) 236-7507

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---

**From:** Jones, Larry [mailto:ljones02@fs.fed.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2011 1:48 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** terry\_johnson@azgfd.gov  
**Subject:** jaguar sighting in Santa Ritas

Eric and Terry--

A couple months ago I saw an email about an unconfirmed sighting of a Jaguar in the Santa Ritas (a fly-over during the fire season). I haven't shared this with anyone, but I was wondering if there is some sort of personal communication for a follow-up. If there is some validity to the report, even if unconfirmed, it may be worthy of a pers. comm. in a Biological Assessment of a project in the Santa Ritas. Thanks! By the by, and pardon my ignorance, are there any likely extant Jaguars in SE AZ or Peloncillos area (the aforementioned record notwithstanding) that you are aware of?

**Larry Jones**  
**Biologist**  
Climate Change Coordinator  
SW PARC Senior Chair  
Coronado National Forest  
300 W Congress  
Tucson, AZ 85701

520-388-8375  
[ljones02@fs.fed.us](mailto:ljones02@fs.fed.us)

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** AZ Daily Star inquiry to U.S. Border Patrol  
**Importance:** High

FYI

**From:** GUMTOW, ROBERT J [<mailto:ROBERT.J.GUMTOW@CBP.DHS.GOV>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; [Jean\\_Calhoun@fws.gov](mailto:Jean_Calhoun@fws.gov)  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Statement

Mark and Jean, hello. If you have a moment, would you please review this request and our subsequent response? Our PIO would like your blessing prior to release. We would like to get this out today if possible. Thank you.

### Statement

On June 2, 2011, an Office of Air and Marine helicopter pilot while on patrol in the Santa Rita Mountains observed a large cat that he believed to be a Jaguar. The cat was seen only briefly as it traveled downhill in densely forested terrain. The possible Jaguar sighting was reported to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service Arizona Ecological Services Office and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The sighting was not videotaped or photographed.

### Reporters Request

I am the environmental reporter for the Arizona Daily Star. I recently received a second-hand report that the Border Patrol or a related agency had earlier this year seen and taken a video tape of a live jaguar moving through the Santa Rita Mountains from a helicopter or some other form of aircraft.

Here are my questions:

- a) Is this true? Did this happen? If so, could you please release details--when, where, how long was it seen or was it videotaped moving and from how high up above was it videotaped? And from what kind of aircraft was the animal seen and videotaped?
- b) Can we get a copy of the video? Or would we have to request it through FOIA?

c)Did Border Patrol or CBP report this sighting to land management or wildlife agencies such as the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Arizona Game and Fish Department? If so, which ones?  
If not, why not?

*Robert J. Guntow*  
*Supervisory Border Patrol Agent*  
*Tucson Sector Public Lands Liaison*  
*U.S. Customs and Border Protection*  
*cell: 520-510-9913 ofc: 520-748-3211*  
*ROBERT.GUNTOW@DHS.GOV*



Please consider the environment before printing this message or any attachments.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:39 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar  
Better safe than sorry.

Thanks,

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**From:** Pat Barber  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:38 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

10-4, I don't think I was copied on the whole thread and apparently missed part of it. As long as we are good to go, I too am also good. Sorry for the confusion.

*Pat Barber*

Yuma Regional Supervisor  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
9140 E. 28th St.  
Yuma, AZ 85365  
(928) 341-4040  
(928) 343-0730 - fax

2/2/2012

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:32 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Pat Barber  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

We will work with USBP Public Affairs to craft a response incorporating as much guidance from HQ as possible.

Thanks,

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
Mhart@azgfd.gov

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**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:30 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Mark said in his original email that he would respond, so I was only providing a review along with everyone else he cc'd. I am willing to do it if needed, but am confident Mark can handle it.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Pat Barber  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:25 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Eric,

Do you need us to respond back to USBP, or with the info provided will you guys?

*Pat Barber*

Yuma Regional Supervisor  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
9140 E. 28th St.  
Yuma, AZ 85365  
(928) 341-4040  
(928) 343-0730 - fax

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:12 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer

2/2/2012

Arizona Game & Fish Department  
 555 N. Greasewood Road  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 office (520) 388-4445  
 cell (520) 282-0978  
 fax (520) 628-5376  
 Mhart@azgfd.gov

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 Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Twitter page

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**From:** Eric Gardner

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 1:03 PM

**To:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

The region will have to chime in hear, but I do not believe a follow-up field investigation occurred. I believe the decision was left to the Region. My information indicates we became aware of the sighting on the 9<sup>th</sup> (a full week post-observation). Along with the remote location and small probability of any physical evidence likely to be found, I would not think a field investigation was warranted, but that does not mean one did not occur. Mark?

Regardless, the Department did follow up with a verbal inquiry to get additional details, which likely led to or reinforced the Class I-7 determination.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

(II.7)

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**From:** Lynda Lambert

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 12:43 PM

**To:** Eric Gardner; Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Eric,

Good edits. Based on Tony's (or the "environmental reporter from the Arizona Daily Star") questions, his next question will be "Did AGFD conduct a field investigation to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence, as defined in the rankings?"

I don't know the answer to this questions, but we need to have a response ready.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

**From:** Eric Gardner

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 12:32 PM

**To:** Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

All, please see my proposed edits below. Also, note that Terry Johnson distributed a jaguar sighting report for this on 6/13/2011. He noted the following in his email:

AGFD has assigned the report a ranking of II-7 (possible jaguar), under our current system. For those unfamiliar with the system, here is the relevant excerpt:

**CLASS II** -- Detailed information of the observation is provided but does not include any physical evidence of a jaguar. Class II observations are considered "probable" or "possible" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence. Field investigations will be attempted, to the extent possible, by the respective state wildlife agency to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence.

- 7 An experienced observer who is familiar with wildlife (especially large mammals) in the area, and spends many hours in the field, provides a detailed report of a jaguar sighting. No physical evidence is provided. Examples of an experienced observer include: biologist, trapper, hunting guide, naturalist, or resident rancher/ranch hand.
- 6 An observer who may not be familiar with many wild mammals, but is accustomed to looking for details and spending many hours in the field, provides an accurate description of a jaguar. Examples of a detailed observer include: bird watcher, rock collector, land surveyor, or border patrol or other non-wildlife law enforcement agent.

2/2/2012

- 5 An observer who may not be “experienced in the outdoors,” but seems reliable, provides sufficient details to suggest that a jaguar was observed.

Additional info from Eric: Class I-8 through 1-10 sightings require some level of physical evidence. The recent observation was classified as a I-10.

**CLASS I** Some sort of physical evidence is provided for verification. Class I reports are considered “verified” or “highly probable”.

- 10 The observer is in possession of, or in close proximity to, a jaguar/ocelot/jaguarundi via trapping, hunting, treeing by hounds, or collection/observation of a road-kill; or a verified photograph from a camera trap (with no observer present) is obtained. Visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed. Examples of evidence include: photographs, videos, pelts, or hair samples, skull, or carcass.
- 9 A jaguar/ocelot/jaguarundi may or may not have been observed, but sign is collected and verified to be from one of these cats. Examples of sign include: tracks (measurable photographs/tracings or plaster casts), scat, prey item (kill verification), or hair/tissue samples.
- 8 A jaguar/ocelot/jaguarundi is reported separately by two reliable individuals, whereby both reporting parties provide sufficient, detailed accounts; or an individual observation where physical evidence is inconclusive but strongly suggests the animal is likely to be a jaguar/ocelot/jaguarundi. Separate, in this case, means that both parties were not participating in the same activity together (e.g. riding in the same vehicle, hunting together, etc.). Examples of inconclusive evidence include: unclear photographs of the animal or partial track measurements.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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### Statement

On June 2, 2011, ~~an Office of Air and Marine~~ a government helicopter pilot ~~while~~ on patrol in the Santa Rita Mountains observed a large cat that he believed to be a Jaguar. The cat was seen only briefly as it traveled downhill in densely forested terrain. The possible Jaguar sighting was reported to the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service Arizona Ecological Services Office and the Arizona Game and Fish Department. The sighting was

not reported to have been videotaped or photographed. Based on the information provided, the reported sighting was classified as a Class II-7 under the ranking criteria established by the Jaguar Conservation Team.

**CLASS II --** Detailed information of the observation is provided but does not include any physical evidence of a jaguar. Class II observations are considered "probable" or "possible" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence. Field investigations will be attempted, to the extent possible, by the respective state wildlife agency to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence.

7. An experienced observer who is familiar with wildlife (especially large mammals) in the area, and spends many hours in the field, provides a detailed report of a jaguar sighting. No physical evidence is provided. Examples of an experienced observer include: biologist, trapper, hunting guide, naturalist, or resident rancher/ranch hand.

### Reporters Request

I am the environmental reporter for the Arizona Daily Star. I recently received a second-hand report that the Border Patrol or a related agency had earlier this year seen and taken a video tape of a live jaguar moving through the Santa Rita Mountains from a helicopter or some other form of aircraft.

Here are my questions:

- a) Is this true? Did this happen? If so, could you please release details--when, where, how long was it seen or was it videotaped moving and from how high up above was it videotaped? And from what kind of aircraft was the animal seen and videotaped?
  - b) Can we get a copy of the video? Or would we have to request it through FOIA?
  - c) Did Border Patrol or CBP report this sighting to land management or wildlife agencies such as the Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and the Arizona Game and Fish Department? If so, which ones?
- If not, why not?



Please consider the environment before printing this message or any attachments.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 4:14 PM  
**To:** Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar  
 Already done – look ahead in your emails. Mark provided the info....

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**From:** Leonard Ordway  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 4:13 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Re: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

I think Aaron did. Please verify.  
 Leonard Ordway, Asst. Dir.  
 Field Ops., AZ G & F Dept.  
 5000 W. Carefree Hwy.  
 Phoenix, AZ 85086  
 (623) 236-7293 - Ofc  
 (623) 850-2319 - Cell

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 01:17 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 4:46 PM  
**To:** Leonard Ordway; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Re: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Yes and details have been provided to USBP, which assisted.

Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

---

**From:** Leonard Ordway  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 04:13 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Re: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

I think Aaron did. Please verify.

Leonard Ordway, Asst. Dir.

Field Ops., AZ G & F Dept.

5000 W. Carefree Hwy.

Phoenix, AZ 85086

(623) 236-7293 - Ofc

(623) 850-2319 - Cell

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 01:17 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Not to my knowledge but am checking.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
Mhart@azgfd.gov

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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Aaron Miller  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 7:59 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Mark,

I'm pretty sure Robert Fink and I (or maybe Tim and I) filled out a report and sent it to either Terry or Eric in Phx regarding that sighting and field site visit.

**Aaron Miller**  
Wildlife Manager  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
555 W. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 591-5960

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---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:12 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445



## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Aaron Miller  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 8:05 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Robert Fink; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011 Edit 17Jun11.docx

Here's the report Robert and I filled out.

**Aaron Miller**  
Wildlife Manager  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
555 W. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 591-5960

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---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:12 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vande; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:36 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Jim

Here is one chain, but note that my information speculating that the region did not respond on site was wrong. They did and will forward that email to you next.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 1:03 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

The region will have to chime in hear, but I do not believe a follow-up field investigation occurred. I believe the decision was left to the Region. My information indicates we became aware of the sighting on the 9<sup>th</sup> (a full week post-observation). Along with the remote location and small probability of any physical evidence likely to be found, I would not think a field investigation was warranted, but that does not mean one did not occur. Mark?

Regardless, the Department did follow up with a verbal inquiry to get additional details, which likely led to or reinforced the Class I-7 determination.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

2/2/2012

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:37 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Okay, should have just sent this one as it is a reply to my email and clarifies that the Region did investigate.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

Mark A. Hart  
 Public Information Officer  
 Arizona Game & Fish Department  
 555 N. Greasewood Road  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 office (520) 388-4445  
 cell (520) 282-0978

~~2/2/2012~~

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:12 PM  
**To:** Pat Barber  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 2:08 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller did a field investigation following the report. He found no prints, scat or other physical evidence. In addition, U.S. Border Patrol assisted Miller in reviewing trail cam photography taken in proximity to the site. There were no jaguar photos.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
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Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Facebook page  
Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Twitter page

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 1:03 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Arizona Daily Star inquiry to the U.S. Border Patrol re: jaguar

The region will have to chime in hear, but I do not believe a follow-up field investigation occurred. I believe the decision was left to the Region. My information indicates we became aware of the sighting on the 9<sup>th</sup> (a full week

2/2/2012

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 30, 2011 11:39 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Update on POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011

**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011.docx

Although redacted, this still email chain includes location information and the attached report has location narrative, a map and GPS coordinates.

Eric Gardner  
 Nongame Branch Chief  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department  
 5000 W. Carefree Highway  
 Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
 Work: (623) 236-7507

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2011 6:44 AM  
**To:** FWS Steven L Spangle; FWS Erin Fernandez; FWS Wendy Brown; FWS Jean A Calhoun; FWS Frank Solis; FWS Nick Chavez; FS Jim Upchurch; FS Jim Copeland; FS Don G DeLorenzo; FS Bobbi L Barrera; USDA-WS David L Bergman; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Brian Wakeling; Chantal OBrien; Mark Weise; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Bob Lemons; Robert Fink; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller; Jim Heffelfinger; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; NMDGF RJ Kirkpatrick; NMDGF James N Stuart; Larry Voyles; NMDGF Tod W Stevenson; MBG Wendy Glenn; JAGCT Jack L Childs  
**Subject:** Jaguar: Update on POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011

Hi!

Attached is the current version of AGFD's record of the subject sighting. It includes a map. As noted in the record, further investigation is ongoing. As information is generated, the record will be updated appropriately and re-distributed.

AGFD has assigned the report a ranking of II-7 (possible jaguar), under our current system. For those unfamiliar with the system, here is the relevant excerpt:

2/2/2012

**CLASS II** -- Detailed information of the observation is provided but does not include any physical evidence of a jaguar. Class II observations are considered "probable" or "possible" as evidence for a jaguar occurrence. Field investigations will be attempted, to the extent possible, by the respective state wildlife agency to gather verifiable evidence of a jaguar's presence.

- 7 An experienced observer who is familiar with wildlife (especially large mammals) in the area, and spends many hours in the field, provides a detailed report of a jaguar sighting. No physical evidence is provided. Examples of an experienced observer include: biologist, trapper, hunting guide, naturalist, or resident rancher/ranch hand.
- 6 An observer who may not be familiar with many wild mammals, but is accustomed to looking for details and spending many hours in the field, provides an accurate description of a jaguar. Examples of a detailed observer include: bird watcher, rock collector, land surveyor, or border patrol or other non-wildlife law enforcement agent.
- 5 An observer who may not be "experienced in the outdoors," but seems reliable, provides sufficient details to suggest that a jaguar was observed.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Endangered Species Coordinator  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 Website <http://azgfd.gov/>  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Terry Johnson

**Sent:** Thursday, June 09, 2011 5:41 PM

**To:** FWS Steven L Spangle; FWS Erin Fernandez; FWS Wendy Brown; FWS Jean A Calhoun; FWS Frank Solis; FWS Nick Chavez; FS Jim Upchurch; FS Jim Copeland; FS Don G DeLorenzo; FS Bobbi L Barrera; USDA-WS David L Bergman; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Brian Wakeling; Chantal OBrien; Mark Weise; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Bob Lemons; Robert Fink; Brad Fulk; Jim Heffelfinger; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; NMDGF RJ Kirkpatrick; NMDGF James N Stuart; Larry Voyles; NMDGF Tod W Stevenson

**Subject:** Jaguar: POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011

Hi!

This message is to apprise you of a POSSIBLE jaguar sighting this week on the south side of the Santa Rita Mountains. I stress POSSIBLE but so far the report is looking pretty credible in terms of observer, location and details. As a formal record for this report is developed, including follow-up work by AGFD Region 5 staff and evaluation at the Regional and Phoenix levels, I will keep you apprised of any further significant developments, pro or con. For now, the attached map and the following summary will need to suffice. Statements (paraphrased for brevity) from the Government Helicopter Pilot who reported the sighting:

While flying low level in a government helicopter I observed what I believe to be a large Jaguar. At 1045 on 2 June, 2011 I was flying the Sonoyta [sic. Sonoita] area. In steep densely forested terrain at 5750 feet of elevation a large cat bounded down hill. The cat's color was dark copper orange with black spots and a long black tip tail, Location [REDACTED] I observed the cat from directly above, at times approaching within 100 feet. I observed the cat primarily from

above, getting as close as 100 feet. Unfortunately no pics were taken. It was larger than a mountain lion, of which I have seen many, burnt orange in color, with obvious spotting. However, I could not discern rosettes or relatively larger head, shoulder or chest. I am certain about what I saw after comparing it photos of jaguars as seen from a distance. The cat's movements were unlikely cause by proximity to the Murphy Fire, some distance away, but rather caused by it being disturbed by the low-level flight. The cat was last seen headed westbound o the north face of Mt. Wrightstown, and was initially bounding, then remained relatively still.

Kudos to the cooperating agency employee for timely reporting and for providing solid details about the observation!

One of the possibilities that will be evaluated is whether the cat might have been a large juvenile mountain lion in which the spots are persistent. Not necessarily a solid possibility but it is one that AGFD folks with relevant expertise will consider as they work through this report.

Mark Hart of AGFD's Tucson office is coordinating follow-up for Regional Supervisor Raul Vega. Several other employees are involved. We look forward to having sufficient information shortly to make a solid call on whether this sighting is sufficiently credible to warrant any more extensive follow-up on the ground.

With this message, I am also apprising AGFD work units of the need to ensure that any wildlife management activities the Department is conducting or authorizing in the subject area are fully compliant with the Department's state and federal authorities, permits, etc. For your convenience, I have attached copies of the relevant authorizations. Any questions about those authorizations should be directed to Eric Gardner, who administers the Departments ESA Section 6 program and our Section 10(a)(1)(A) permit from USFWS.

Thx, Terry

\*\*\*\*\*

Terry B. Johnson  
Endangered Species Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086-5000  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 03, 2011 1:14 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tom Cadden; Rory Aikens; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar: Update on POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011.docx

Sighting was assigned as II-7 and there is a comment that the record will be updated appropriately as information is generated. To my knowledge, no information was generated that would have decreased the classification. Similarly, no information was discovered that would increase it – no photos from the tail camera, no tracks, scat, etc.

So, I hope to get the updated report as soon as possible, but think our characterization of the sighting to the media has been accurate.

Eric Gardner  
 Nongame Branch Chief  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department  
 5000 W. Carefree Highway  
 Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
 Work: (623) 236-7507

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2011 6:44 AM  
**To:** FWS Steven L. Spangle; FWS Erin Fernandez; FWS Wendy Brown; FWS Jean A. Calhoun; FWS Frank Solis; FWS Nick Chavez; FS Jim Upchurch; FS Jim Copeland; FS Don G. DeLorenzo; FS Bobbi L. Barrera; USDA-WS David L. Bergman; Tim Snow; Eric Gardner; Brian Wakeling; Chantal O'Brien; Mark Weise; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Bob Lemons; Robert Fink; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller; Jim Heffelfinger; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Mike Senn; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; NMDGF RJ Kirkpatrick; NMDGF James N. Stuart; Larry Voyles; NMDGF Tod W. Stevenson; MBG Wendy Glenn; JAGCT Jack L. Childs  
**Subject:** Jaguar: Update on POSSIBLE sighting in Santa Rita Mountains on June 2, 2011

Hi!

Attached is the current version of AGFD's record of the subject sighting. It includes a map. As noted in the record, further investigation is ongoing. As information is generated, the record will be updated

2/2/2012



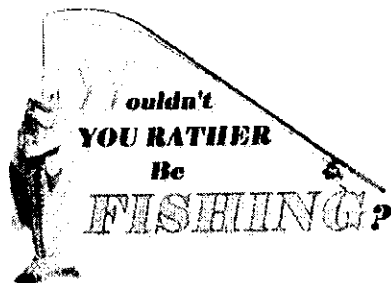
**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 03, 2011 12:49 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tom Cadden; Rory Aikens; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** RE: Ocelot: Hereford Serval? -- Photos

And I would expect that you made whoever was interested this month aware of the bolded passages below. But please note that (a) my June email below was sent BEFORE the Region 5 follow-up, (b) I was at AGFD from 1 pm until 4 or 4:30 pm on Thursday for wolf issues with Larry Riley and a Commissioner and at the AGFC meeting on Friday from 1030 until almost 3 pm. Nobody grabbed me to ask me any questions about the information available or the June email from me that was apparently the basis for the jaguar response to whomever. Given the loose ends identified in the June 9 email, I would have expected someone to check to see if the opinions therein remained unchanged. I'll leave it to you and Raul to communicate these thoughts to anyone else in Region 5.

My best assessments remain (a) not an ocelot but a serval-ish cat and (b) not a jaguar but a young mountain lion.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 \*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Saturday, December 03, 2011 12:30 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Brad Fulk; Tom Cadden; Rory Aikens; Lynda Lambert; Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** RE: Ocelot: Hereford Serval? -- Photos

Terry, please note that my responses to news media inquiries about the possible jaguar sighting in June, which were not initiated by us, were based on the communication below from you. If you subsequently had reason to question the credibility of the pilot, I was not made aware of it.

Thank you,

Mark Hart, PIO  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department Tucson

2/2/2012

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 1:37 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Raul Vega; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** FW: SR Jag Report Update  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Sighting Report Santa Ritas REDACTED 2Jun2011 Edit 17Jun11.docx

Here's a FORWARD of the June 24<sup>th</sup> email with report attached.

*Robert Fink*

Wildlife Program Manager  
Tucson Region

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
555 N Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Office : (520) 388-4441  
Fax: (520) 628-5080  
rfink@azgfd.gov

Click [here](#) to buy your hunting or fishing license online  
Click [here](#) to enroll in the online Introductory Hunter Safety Class  
Click [here](#) to enroll in the online Boat Arizona, Boater Safety Class  
Click [here](#) to sign up for FREE Arizona Game and Fish Department e-news subscriptions

*Remember to support Arizona's OHV management efforts by  
purchasing the OHV Decal!!*

**From:** Robert Fink  
**Sent:** Friday, June 24, 2011 5:29 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Raul Vega; Leonard Ordway; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller; Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Robert Fink  
**Subject:** SR Jag Report Update

Updated report attached.

Robert Fink

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Saturday, November 19, 2011 10:36 AM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** Possible Jaguar Sighting

Tom & Lynda, Eric Gardner just called with news of a possible Jaguar sighting in Region 5. Lion hunters with dogs treed the cat and called Duane Abuchon. He asked them to take photos and pull dogs. He is working with Tim Snow to get a W. M. out to the hunters location to confirm sighting. There will be more to follow. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** JOHN MILLICAN [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 9:40 AM  
**To:** Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller; Bryan Marshall; Jim Heffelfinger  
**Subject:** FW: jaguar sighting

FYI.  
John

---

**Date:** Sat, 19 Nov 2011 23:25:20 -0500  
**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** jaguar sighting

Hear today that a jaguar was sighted in the Whetstones. Call came from the state office. Hope someone got photos!

--  
Stephanie Johnston "This is a great Constitution, but if it doesn't serve you during a crisis, what good is it?" -  
Gordon Hirabayashi

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 10:10 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling  
**Subject:** Jag. & R-5

Telecom Mark Hart. He and Aaron Miller are enroute to meet w/ Don Fan, the hounds man who treed the cat. Mark will download photos and videos from Don's camera and do a short interview. Then Aaron and Don are going to follow the chase route from a deer kill where the dogs struck the scent and followed until it treed at least twice. That's the info that Mark relayed to me. He will attempt to be back in office by noon and send photos and video to be examined. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

## Eric Gardner

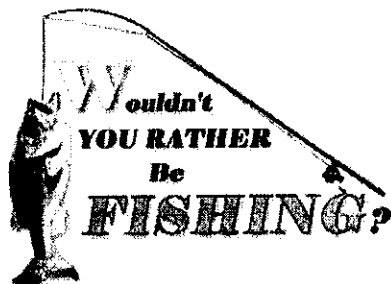
**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:39 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval  
**Attachments:** 111121\_Jaguar\_report\_confirmed\_nr.TBJ.doc

A few comments embedded. My comment re-southeast vs. south is to imply that this jaguar is not in the area roamed by Macho B. Any better "compass-pointing" that gets that point across (e.g. ESE, SSE, whatever) is more advisable than simple "south," in my opinion. Heck, I would go so far as to say "more than 40 miles southeast" and emphasize "remote rugged area" (or something like that) to be informative yet reasonably vague, with the bonus of advising concerned citizens in Tucson that that will NOT be seeing jaguars in their backyards tonight.

I do like the fact that no reference is made to Macho B. Life does in fact move on.

Thanks, Lynda, for including me in the loop.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:00 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Hi,

Attached is a draft news release on the jaguar sighting this weekend for your review and comment. Please provide me with your input as soon as possible, as we plan to get this distributed to media this morning.

2/2/2012

Note that in keeping with department precedent, we will not refer to the location of the animal any more specifically than to classify it as "south of Tucson" due to the species endangered listing.

Regards,  
*Lynda Lambert*  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
T: 623.236.7203  
C: 602.531.2393  
F: 623.236.7903  
llambert@azgfd.gov

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Heritage Fund's Legacy**  
Making a Difference for Conservation



Thanks, Eric. Let me know regarding sharing this data as well as other jaguar data with U of A for monitoring project per my earlier email. Thanks.

Jean A. Calhoun  
Assistant Field Supervisor  
U.S.Fish & Wildlife Service  
Arizona Ecological Services Office  
201 North Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Office: (520) 670-6150 ext. 223  
Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

To <jean\_calhoun@fws.gov>

11/21/2011 01:19 PM

cc <Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov>, "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>, "Tim Snow" <TSnow@azgfd.gov>

Subject FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean, Here is the text regarding location from the Region 5 report. I will see if we have and if we can share the specific GPS coordinates. Seems likely in the interest of jaguar conservation, but need to make sure we have no FOIA concerns, etc.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

ell)

2/2/2012



## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 11:02 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Riley; Eric Gardner; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid  
**Cc:** Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** Jag, R-5 Update III

Another telecon w/ Mark H. They have seen the photos and it is clear that it is a spotted, big cat with large head and long tail. Mr. Fan is reluctant to give us his photos because of their obvious value. Aaron and Mark are headed on up to the deer kill location while Mark continues to negotiate for photos and video. Stay tuned for more info. Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination  
**Importance:** High

Rebecca,

Please attempt to pull together a **telephonic** meeting for sometime next week for those in the "Cc line" of this e-mail. I considered trying to pull this together today, but that just seems like a bridge too far. Even next week will be tight, but I don't think I want to wait longer than that.

- I included all the members of E-staff for this note, but this meeting is optional for John Bullington and Lizette Morgan.
- Many folks will need to call in so we need to get the conference call info to everyone and have the Kingfisher set up and the phone operational in advance.
- If there are other folks the invitees want to attend, they are welcome to invite them . . . up to the point where we suck all the oxygen out of the Kingfisher.

Purpose of the meeting is to ensure we are all on the same page at this point in the process of managing this situation. Folks should be prepared to talk about:

- Press release (I expect that to be on the street before this meeting)
- Current state of discussions with the RP about the visual material
- Status of our permit issues, if any.
- Status of required notification, e.g., Federal partners under our ESA permit, livestock growers under our JAGCT protocols, etc.
- Status of the materials collected from the location of the sighting.
- Way ahead for the future, i.e., what next?
  - At a minimum, we will be discussing dusting off the current capture protocols to ensure we are postured to be, in the future, to be fully prepared to make a recommendation to the Director regarding an attempt to collar a jaguar . . .
  - the current circumstances we find ourselves in (somewhat dated protocols, no reliable collar, no slate of previously identified team members, no table-top exercise of the protocols, somewhat dated permit relationship with USFWS, etc.) dictated our decision this time.
  - Given the priorities of the past two years, that is no one's fault, but when there is a "next time", we need to be prepared for the full range of potential options. Currently, we are not prepared to be more active.
- Resource requirements.
- The public engagement we committed to as part of our management of the aftermath of the capture, re-capture and euthanization of Macho B.
- Other issues as brought up by the assembled masses.

--Gary/GF2

## Michelle Black

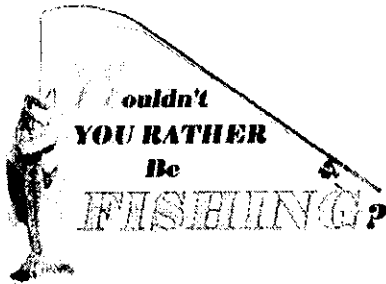
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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:48 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination

Monday I am available from 2 pm on. May Clinic session before then.

Tuesday and Wednesday are completely open.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination  
**Importance:** High

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- If there are other folks the invitees want to attend, they are welcome to invite them . . . up to the point where we suck all the oxygen out of the Kingfisher.

**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:56 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Lopez  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination  
**Importance:** High

I'm available at the following times right now:

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> after 3 pm  
 Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> after about 3:30 pm  
 Weds 30<sup>th</sup> before 10:30 AM and after 3:30 PM  
 Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> after 10 AM  
 Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> OK

Lawrence M. Riley  
 Assistant Director  
 Wildlife Management Division  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department  
 5000 W. Carefree Highway  
 Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

623-236-7302  
[lriley@azgfd.gov](mailto:lriley@azgfd.gov)

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**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination  
**Importance:** High

Rebecca,

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## Bill Vanpelt

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 1:11 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** Re: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

If they find the deer kill they should photograph it and look to see how the jaguar killed it. We have very little information on kills this far north and it could help with possible depredations in the future.

Bill

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 10:36 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Thanks Jim.

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sun 11/20/2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling  
**Subject:** Jag. & R-5

Telecom Mark Hart. He and Aaron Miller are enroute to meet w/ Don Fan, the hounds man who treed the cat. Mark will download photos and videos from Don's camera and do a short interview. Then Aaron and Don are going to follow the chase route from a deer kill where the dogs struck the scent and followed until it treed at least twice. That's the info that Mark relayed to me. He will attempt to be back in office by noon and send photos and video to be examined. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 1:19 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller  
**Cc:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Guys, A little more info to consider. Jim

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 01:10 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Larry Riley; Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** Re: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

If they find the deer kill they should photograph it and look to see how the jaguar killed it. We have very little information on kills this far north and it could help with possible depredations in the future.

Bill

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 10:36 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Thanks Jim.

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sun 11/20/2011 10:09 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling  
**Subject:** Jag. & R-5

Telecom Mark Hart. He and Aaron Miller are enroute to meet w/ Don Fan, the hounds man who treed the cat. Mark will download photos and videos from Don's camera and do a short interview. Then Aaron and Don are going to follow the chase route from a deer kill where the dogs struck the scent and followed until it treed at least twice. That's the info that Mark relayed to me. He will attempt to be back in office by noon and send photos and video to be examined. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:21 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 8:45 PM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Jim, Brad and Aaron RP contact tomorrow likely by phone only. Brad and I to meet 8 am. Shouldn't I only brief details by phone?

Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 07:10 PM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Brad Fulk  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Tom, Yep...understand. this should be a straight forward news release that we can get out before close of business. Fuax pax on my part using R. P.'s name that we will avoid in the future. Mark & Aaron to meet with R. P. Tomorrow 0800? Mark will get details to us post haste. More as we learn details. Best, Jim

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tom Cadden  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 06:28 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

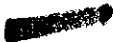
Jim / Lynda,

Since I imagine whatever we send out will go to our constituent e-news lists, we will need to coordinate carefully on timing.

We have two other large mailings going out in the next two days: (1) the availability of the hunt recommendations for public review, and (2) draw results, currently planned for Tuesday morning.

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 04:25 PM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Tom & Lynda, we will work with Mark Hart together a news release out tomorrow. Hopefully, we will have a photo to include, but that decision is in the hands of the R. P. I'll get with Lynda first thing Monday. Model after the ocelot release and run a draft by Mark. Best, Jim



## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 1:28 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination

Eric – I think you could delete the whole sentence that you changed and leave things as stated in the previous sentence (... treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The RP stated ....). I suspect that everyone at the meeting has probably already seen the summary, but that is your guys call.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:28 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Report from Region V -- Meeting Coordination

Gary,  
Perhaps a modified version of the Observation Report sent out by Tim earlier today should be provided to those that will be participating in the conference call/meeting. I have attached one using Track Changes to remove specific location information for your consideration. It requires accepting or denying the changes before being sent to the full list of attendees. The original version could also go out, but recognize it provides more specific location info. What do you think? I kept this distribution list small on purpose...

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock



## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 2:27 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

All, I am including Raul Vega, Tim Snow, Aaron Miller and Mark Hart in this email chain so that the loop is complete and we all have the same info to work from.

Aaron and Mark have completed their field trip and visit with Don Fan. Both are certain that this is a jaguar who is mature but prime and in very good shape. He was very calm in the tree and Fan videoed him for possibly 15 minutes before the cat jumped out of the tree and ran off.

Mr. Fan wants tonight to talk with his family and consider options before visiting with Aaron/Mark on photo/video release. They will call me in the a.m. At the very least Aaron thinks that Mr Fan would be amenable to showing his photos and video to biologists from H. Q.

There is no deer kill that Mr. Fan found. That was what Mr. Fan thought when his dogs struck scent is that the jag was either on a kill or bedded down. In order to get to the location where the jag was jumped, good mountain horses will be require...very steep and rough country...and the access through the ranch problem. There may be a kill, but Mr. Fan did not locate it.

Right now that is all I know. We are in. A holding pattern at least until tomorrow. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 01:36 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley; Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Bill makes a good point and it goes beyond that. Perhaps Wildlife Services (WS) is involved at the field level and it is not coming through in the AGFD email loop. WS is living under a BO and traps SE AZ extensively. They have great need for good info pertaining to tracks and kills of and by jaguars in AZ-NM. They have dogs and very skilled field folks and much to gain from co-investigating solid reports and participating in the follow-up and AGFD has much to gain from involving them.

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**Bill Vanpelt**

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 3:07 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** Re: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Warner wrote a book and used the proceeds to fund the compensation fund.

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 03:00 PM  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Jim et al, just out of curiosity: did the Glenns, Jack Childs, McCain, or anyone else we know ever make significant money from their jag photos? Who does Mr Fans think is going to pay him and how much does he think they are worth? -- GF2

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 02:26 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

All, I am including Raul Vega, Tim Snow, Aaron Miller and Mark Hart in this email chain so that the loop is complete and we all have the same info to work from.

Aaron and Mark have completed their field trip and visit with Don Fan. Both are certain that this is a jaguar who is mature but prime and in very good shape. He was very calm in the tree and Fan videoed him for possibly 15 minutes before the cat jumped out of the tree and ran off.

Mr. Fan wants tonight to talk with his family and consider options before visiting with Aaron/Mark on photo/video release. They will call me in the a.m. At the very least Aaron thinks that Mr Fan would be amenable to showing his photos and video to biologists from H. Q.

There is no deer kill that Mr. Fan found. That was what Mr. Fan thought when his dogs struck scent is that the jag was either on a kill or bedded down. In order to get to the location where the jag was jumped, good mountain horses will be require...very steep and rough country...and the access through

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:02 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow; Bill Burger; Dan Groebner; Lin Piest; Susan MacVean; John Kraft  
**Cc:** WMNG  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

All – I accidentally included the wrong Susan in the email you all got. I have since forwarded it to Susie MacVean as intended. Please don't pester Susan McMullen with a bunch of "Reply Alls" – use this email if you desire to do a reply all as I have removed Mrs. McMullen and added our Susie.

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
623-236-7507

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 3:47 PM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter; Ty Gray; Leonard Ordway; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Regional Supervisors; Mark Weise; Sharen Adams; Josh Avey; Kirk Young; Esther Rubin; Brian Wakeling; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Lynda Lambert; [Steve.Spangle@fws.gov](mailto:Steve.Spangle@fws.gov); 'Bergman, David L - APHIS'  
**Subject:** Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required  
**Importance:** High

All:

Yesterday morning, November 19, 2011, we received information of a jaguar observation that appears to be a valid sighting of a healthy, adult male jaguar. The sighting took place in the Whetstone Mountains, south of I-10. Detailed location and observation information will be provided by Region 5 in the near future; however the location should only be described as "the Whetstone Mountains" accept as approved by me. AGFD personnel have examined photos and video of the cat that were taken by the lion hunter whose dogs treed the animal. We are currently in discussions with him in an effort to obtain at least some of the photos for additional analysis and possibly future sighting comparisons. Region 5 personnel are also attempting to locate physical evidence at the site for genetic testing. Due to this confirmed sighting, there are specific actions that must be taken in accordance with both our Permit (attached) and the Jaguar and Ocelot Directive (also attached).

### Permit Stipulations:

- Notification of Steve Spangle (USFWS AESO) within 24 hours: completed by me via phone and this email.
- Notification of Dave Bergman (APHIS) within 24 hours: completed – Mr. Bergman was contacted through his own sources and confirmed information with Bill Van Pelt that we were receiving through Tim Snow from the hunter, also notified by via voice message and this email.
- Notification of BLM or FS Supervisor within 24 hours: to be completed by Region 5 personnel on Monday.

### Jaguar Directive:

- Jaguar Conservation Lead must inform the Director, E-Staff, Regional Supervisors, Development Branch, FOD and WMD Coordinators, all WMD Branch Chiefs, I&E Branch Chief: completed by various phone calls and this email and other emails.
- In part, this notification is being made because you may have activities that need to be adjusted to comply with the attached jaguar directive. If you are not familiar with the directive, please review it to ensure you are in compliance with and are actively implementing any changes for which you are responsible.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:36 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Folks, I appreciate the RP choosing to do the responsible thing and contacting us when he encountered it. That said, if our folks have seen enough to be confident this is an adult male jaguar on apparently good health, then I'm ok thanking the RP, and moving on. Should the RP change his mind in the future that would be great. Should he be willing to let or folks view the video, also good. But it seems to me that about the only thing we can't do without possession of the photos/video is have a picture to publish with the release and the ability to document the spotting pattern for comparison with other jag photos. Unless someone wants to build the case that it's absolutely essential that we possess the imagery, then let's document the sighting (including affidavits by the folks who saw the imagery) make DNA analysis of the physical evidence collected a priority, and do the public announcement. None of this precludes maintaining contact with the RP, but our eagerness may just start fueling some belief he's won the lottery. Bill Van Pelt tells me Warner Glenn made some money with his book and if the RP can make some money, then more power to him, but at some point enuf is going to be enuf ... Is this that point? -- Gary

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 04:52 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Larry, I thought about my previous reply to this and realized you may need some additional details so that someone can notify the Commission. Typically, the Region investigating the sighting provides the summary report since they have the most accurate information. They will still do that and I don't want my summary below to hamper their process; however, since I will be out Monday and do not know when Tim will be able to provide details, I will summarize what I know for you here. Region 5 folks, please feel free to correct or add to any of the information below, but please make sure you still complete your full report on the sighting and follow-up investigation.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist.
- Tim worked with various Region 5 personnel to attempt to follow up on the report. The Department's ability to respond to the site was hampered by the remote location of the sighting

2/2/2012

and the fact that many officers were participating in a youth hunting camp located elsewhere in the sector. Later information indicates that the jaguar left the tree approximately 15 minutes after being treed, so Department personnel would not have been able to independently confirm the sighting even had they responded immediately.

- The lion hunter initially indicated that some of his hounds were injured and later determined to seek veterinary assistance due to the injuries.
- As a result, Tim Snow was unable to meet with the hunter as planned that evening; however, the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).
- Officer Aaron Miller and I&E Specialist Mark Hart met with the hunter on Sunday and he showed them pictures and video of the cat; however, he did not provide copies to AGFD as he is considering his options due to the potential value of the photos.
- Both AGFD personnel confirmed that the animal was a jaguar. It was reported to be a healthy male jaguar in his prime.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
- AGFD will send the hair samples off for genetic testing if the materials prove suitable.
- Region 5 will follow-up with the reporting party on Monday to determine if he has decided to share any photos or video or not.
- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).

Hope that helps. **Will you or someone be notifying the Commissioners as your email indicated or is that something I need to take care of?** Please let me know. Thanks.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:21 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Tim,  
 Care to take a crack at this? I can try but likely do not know things accurately. I suspect having it together by Monday mid-day will be okay.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:13 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxson; Terry Johnson; Eric Gardner; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles

2/2/2012

## Michelle Black

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**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:40 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

I agree with Gary, especially since, whatever the RP does with the photos, we will likely get images of the cat via secondary means (e.g. buying his publication, etc.). I would just say, let's follow up tomorrow and see if he offers anything up. If not, let him do his thing and we will eventually see photos that will hopefully provide us what we need for pelage comparisons. I'll be he will be willing to share some low resolution photos with us so we have the spot patterns but not high quality enough to officially publish in a magazine, etc....

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
623-236-7507

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 5:36 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Folks, I appreciate the RP choosing to do the responsible thing and contacting us when he encountered it. That said, if our folks have seen enough to be confident this is an adult male jaguar on apparently good health, then I'm ok thanking the RP, and moving on. Should the RP change his mind in the future that would be great. Should he be willing to let or folks view the video, also good. But it seems to me that about the only thing we can't do without possession of the photos/video is have a picture to publish with the release and the ability to document the spotting pattern for comparison with other jag photos. Unless someone wants to build the case that it's absolutely essential that we possess the imagery, then let's document the sighting (including affidavits by the folks who saw the imagery) make DNA analysis of the physical evidence collected a priority, and do the public announcement. None of this precludes maintaining contact with the RP, but our eagerness may just start fueling some belief he's won the lottery. Bill Van Pelt tells me Warner Glenn made some money with his book and if the RP can make some money, then more power to him, but at some point enuf is going to be enuf ... Is this that point? -- Gary

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 04:52 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 9:10 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Mark, yes, Phone is good with either Lynda or me. Best, Jim

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 08:44 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Jim, Brad and Aaron RP contact tomorrow likely by phone only. Brad and I to meet 8 am. Shouldn't I only brief details by phone?

Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 07:10 PM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Brad Fulk  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Tom, Yep...understand. this should be a straight forward news release that we can get out before close of business. Fuax pax on my part using R. P.'s name that we will avoid in the future. Mark & Aaron to meet with R. P. Tomorrow 0800? Mark will get details to us post haste. More as we learn details. Best, Jim

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tom Cadden  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 06:28 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Jim / Lynda,

Since I imagine whatever we send out will go to our constituent e-news lists, we will need to coordinate carefully on timing.

We have two other large mailings going out in the next two days: (1) the availability of the hunt recommendations for public review, and (2) draw results, currently planned for Tuesday morning.

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 04:25 PM

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:28 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Mark – Can we use your summary for these purposes?

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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[Learn more about Fishing and Hunting in AZ](#) or [Get Your Licenses Online](#)

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:21 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Tim,

Care to take a crack at this? I can try but likely do not know things accurately. I suspect having it together by Monday mid-day will be okay.

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
623-236-7507

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:13 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Eric Gardner; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Ty Gray; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

I spoke with Eric a little while ago. I believe he is putting together a complete summary, and when we've got it pretty well nailed down - Saturday through today's events - I'll share that summary with Commissioners.



## Eric Gardner

**From:** Duane Aubuchon  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:33 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Tim,

Just one comment on the report Eric summarized below. The lion hunter actually contacted Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner, who then notified his supervisor (me) and I proceeded from there.

Duane J. Aubuchon  
Wildlife Manager Supervisor  
Region V—Tucson  
(520) 591-1467  
daubuchon@azgfd.gov

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:53 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

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- As a result, Tim Snow was unable to meet with the hunter as planned that evening; however,

the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).

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Arizona Game and Fish Department  
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Nongame Branch Chief  
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623-236-7507

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:13 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Eric Gardner; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Ty Gray; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

I spoke with Eric a little while ago. I believe he is putting together a complete summary, and when we've got it pretty well nailed down - Saturday through today's events - I'll share that summary with

Commissioners.

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Sun 11/20/2011 3:06 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** Re: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Warner wrote a book and used the proceeds to fund the compensation fund.

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 03:00 PM  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Jim et al, just out of curiosity: did the Glenns, Jack Childs, McCain, or anyone else we know ever make significant money from their jag photos? Who does Mr Fans think is going to Pay him and how much does he think they are worth? -- GF2

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 02:26 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid; Tim Snow; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Larry Voyles  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

All, I am including Raul Vega, Tim Snow, Aaron Miller and Mark Hart in this email chain so that the loop is complete and we all have the same info to work from.

Aaron and Mark have completed their field trip and visit with Don Fan. Both are certain that this is a jaguar who is mature but prime and in very good shape. He was very calm in the tree and Fan videoed him for possibly 15 minutes before the cat jumped out of the tree and ran off.

Mr. Fan wants tonight to talk with his family and consider options before visiting with Aaron/Mark on photo/video release. They will call me in the a.m. At the very least Aaron thinks that Mr Fan would be amenable to showing his photos and video to biologists from H. Q.

There is no deer kill that Mr. Fan found. That was what Mr. Fan thought when his dogs struck scent is that the jag was either on a kill or bedded down. In order to get to the location where the jag was jumped, good mountain horses will be require...very steep and rough country...and the access through the ranch problem. There may be a kill, but Mr. Fan did not locate it.

2/2/2012

Right now that is all I know. We are in. A holding pattern at least until tomorrow. Best, Jim

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Terry Johnson

**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 01:36 PM US Mountain Standard Time

**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley; Jim Paxon

**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid

**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Bill makes a good point and it goes beyond that. Perhaps Wildlife Services (WS) is involved at the field level and it is not coming through in the AGFD email loop. WS is living under a BO and traps SE AZ extensively. They have great need for good info pertaining to tracks and kills of and by jaguars in AZ-NM. They have dogs and very skilled field folks and much to gain from co-investigating solid reports and participating in the follow-up and AGFD has much to gain from involving them.

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Bill Vanpelt

**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 01:10 PM US Mountain Standard Time

**To:** Larry Riley; Jim Paxon

**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bob Broscheid

**Subject:** Re: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

If they find the deer kill they should photograph it and look to see how the jaguar killed it. We have very little information on kills this far north and it could help with possible depredations in the future.

Bill

---

**From:** Larry Riley

**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 10:36 AM

**To:** Jim Paxon

**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Bob Broscheid

**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 (possible photos later this afternoon)

Thanks Jim.

---

**From:** Jim Paxon

**Sent:** Sun 11/20/2011 10:09 AM

**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling

2/2/2012

**Subject:** Jag. & R-5

Telecom Mark Hart. He and Aaron Miller are enroute to meet w/ Don Fan, the hounds man who treed the cat. Mark will download photos and videos from Don's camera and do a short interview. Then Aaron and Don are going to follow the chase route from a deer kill where the dogs struck the scent and followed until it treed at least twice. That's the info that Mark relayed to me. He will attempt to be back in office by noon and send photos and video to be examined. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

2/2/2012

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:42 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Everyone: There is only one change to the event-chain.

The original report was received by Devin Skinner (WM in Safford). Devin followed procedures laid out in the Jag Directive by contacting his supervisor (Duane Aubuchon). The rest of the event-chain is correct.

Mark Hart is working on a summary from yesterday's events/interview with the RP, which should be available later this morning.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:06 AM  
**To:** Commissioners; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist (Tim Snow).

## Michelle Black

---

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**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:42 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
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Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:06 AM  
**To:** Commissioners; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist (Tim Snow).

**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:42 AM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk; Devin Skinner; Tim Snow; Larry Riley  
**Subject:** Call me

Raul  
Please call me if you get this. Need you to do all you can to get an officer to roll on a recent/ongoing jaguar sighting. Tim is already working hard to make this happen, but I want to make sure you have the chance to direct personnel as needed to respond.

My cell is 602-350-4004.

Thank you,

Eric Gardner  
Office: 623-236-7507



## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:00 AM  
**To:** Robert Fink  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Bob – Here is info, as you should also be included in the e-mail loop.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Duane Aubuchon  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:33 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Tim,

Just one comment on the report Eric summarized below. The lion hunter actually contacted Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner, who then notified his supervisor (me) and I proceeded from there.

Duane J. Aubuchon  
Wildlife Manager Supervisor  
Region V—Tucson  
(520) 591-1467  
daubuchon@azgfd.gov

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:53 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Larry, I thought about my previous reply to this and realized you may need some additional details so that someone can notify the Commission. Typically, the Region investigating the sighting provides the summary report since they have the

**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:07 AM  
**To:** COCO James E Vlahovich; COCO Richard Searle; NPS Elaine Leslie; BLM Mary Kralovec  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf  
**Importance:** High

I just sent the attached update to our Commissioners, and wanted to make sure you were aware of it too. I believe these observations to be pretty accurate, but recognize that additional detail and clarity will be forthcoming over the next several days.

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

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- The lion hunter initially indicated that some of his hounds were injured and later determined to seek veterinary assistance due to the injuries.
- As a result, Tim Snow was unable to meet with the hunter as planned that evening; however, the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).
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- Both AGFD personnel concurred that the animal appeared to be a jaguar. It was reported to be a healthy male jaguar in his prime.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
- AGFD will send the hair samples off for genetic testing if the materials prove suitable.
- Region 5 will follow-up with the reporting party on Monday to determine if he has

decided to share any photos or video or not.

- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).

Working with Eric Gardner, our Chief of Nongame, we have put together this abstract. As information firms up and analysis allows for more definitive statement; the Department will provide follow-up information.

Larry Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
623-236-7302  
623-680-2623 (cell)

**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:10 AM  
**To:** JAGRT Carlos A Lopez Gonzalez; JAGRT Howard Quigley; MX Jesús Lizardo Cruz Romo; MX Oscar Ramirez Flores; FWS Erin Fernandez  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf; Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf  
**Importance:** High

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Larry Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
623-236-7302  
623-680-2623 (cell)

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:23 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Updated field notes

Yes, this is good to go. Can you do routing?

Mark

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:22 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Updated field notes

Mark – I used track changes with one more edit. Looks good to go.

Thanks,

Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:18 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Updated field notes

Attached

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:57 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson; Robert Fink; Gabriel Paz; Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_Whetstone Mtns.doc

All – Here is the summary of the field follow-up/interview with the RP from yesterday. Mark Hart and I will work with Jim Paxon to finalize a press release. Brad Fulk (acting for Raul Vega) is contacting the Forest Supervisor (Coronado) and BLM (Tucson Field Office).

Larry – Please share with the Commissioners, as this should clarify Commissioner Freeman's questions.

Thanks everyone. We will update you if we have anything new to report.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:06 AM  
**To:** Commissioners; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High

Commissioners,

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Larry Riley  
 Assistant Director  
 Wildlife Management Division  
 623-236-7302  
 623-680-2623 (cell)



## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:21 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5  
**Attachments:** jagfieldnotes.doc

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:45 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Please see attached.

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:36 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Mark – Please ensure Devin is included in your summary.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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---

**From:** Duane Aubuchon  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:33 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Tim,

Just one comment on the report Eric summarized below. The lion hunter actually contacted Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner, who then notified his supervisor (me) and I proceeded from there.

Duane J. Aubuchon



**Wildlife Manager Supervisor**  
**Region V—Tucson**  
**(520) 591-1467**  
**daubuchon@azgfd.gov**

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 4:53 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles  
**Cc:** Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Larry, I thought about my previous reply to this and realized you may need some additional details so that someone can notify the Commission. Typically, the Region investigating the sighting provides the summary report since they have the most accurate information. They will still do that and I don't want my summary below to hamper their process; however, since I will be out Monday and do not know when Tim will be able to provide details, I will summarize what I know for you here. Region 5 folks, please feel free to correct or add to any of the information below, but please make sure you still complete your full report on the sighting and follow-up investigation.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist.
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- Officer Aaron Miller and I&E Specialist Mark Hart met with the hunter on Sunday and he showed them pictures and video of the cat; however, he did not provide copies to AGFD as he is considering his options due to the potential value of the photos.
- Both AGFD personnel confirmed that the animal was a jaguar. It was reported to be a healthy male jaguar in his prime.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
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- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).

Hope that helps. **Will you or someone be notifying the Commissioners as your email indicated or is that something I need to take care of?** Please let me know. Thanks.

**Eric Gardner**

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:21 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Fixed typos, attached  
**Attachments:** jagfieldnotes.doc

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:48 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Fixed typos, attached

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**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:36 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Jag. & R-5 Update #5

Mark – Please ensure Devin is included in your summary.

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Tim,

Just one comment on the report Eric summarized below. The lion hunter actually contacted Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner, who then notified his supervisor (me) and I proceeded from there.

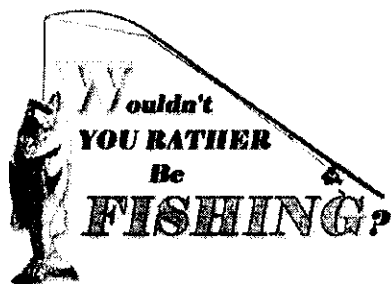
Duane J. Aubuchon

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:57 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** JAGRT Carlos A Lopez Gonzalez; JAGRT Howard Quigley; MX Jesús Lizardo Cruz Romo; MX Oscar Ramirez Flores; FWS Erin Fernandez

And don't forget Erin Fernández, Oscar Ramírez, Lizardo Cruz, Howard Quigley and Carlos Lopez-Gonzalez.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 \*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:52 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High

Here are a few contacts that I mentioned to Larry this morning. These are agency folks I did not see referenced by name or affiliation in Larry's preliminary summary this morning that I routinely notified of jaguar and ocelot sightings (I did not waste their time with jaguarundi).

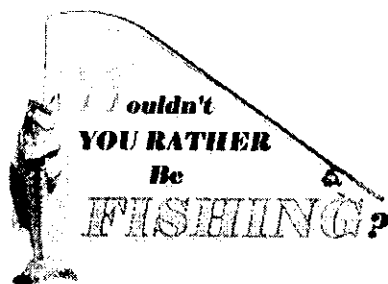
When you do decide to do the external notification, agencies and the public (i.e. public aside from news release, ES Update or some other non-specific device), I always covered Jack Childs, Wendy Glenn, Patrick Bray and Jim DeVos in my personal notifications. That way I reached houndsmen, trappers, ranchers and sportsmen.

NRCS is another agency that some consideration should be given to, whether at the State or the District level. And DHS/Border Patrol.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement

11/21/2011

\*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 \*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:20 AM  
**To:** 'David.L.Bergman@aphis.usda.gov'; 'Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov'  
**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt; Eric Gardner; Raul Vega  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Importance:** High

**Importance:** High

I know that you have both been in the loop to one degree or another over the weekend. I just sent the attached update to our Commissioners, and wanted to make sure you were aware of it too. I believe these observations to be pretty accurate, but recognize that additional detail and clarity will be forthcoming over the next several days.

Commissioners,

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Larry Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
623-236-7302  
623-680-2623 (cell)

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:57 AM  
**To:** Norm Freeman  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

I can't answer with certainty, but will try to follow-up to get that kind of detail.

We are hoping to gather copies of the photographs for physical verification of the identification. Our staff have viewed the photos and concur that it appears to be a jaguar, having the copies of the photos lends strength to the identification. I do not believe that photos are being sought as part of an investigation.

---

**From:** Norm Freeman  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:50 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Larry  
Do we know at what point in the pursuit he knew it was not a mt lion?  
Do we need the photo for an investigation?  
These are questions lay people may ask me  
Thanks  
Norm

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 08:05 AM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Commissioners; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Ty Gray; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Jim Paxon; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Duane Aubuchon; Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the

Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist (Tim Snow).

- Tim worked with various Region 5 personnel to attempt to follow up on the report. The Department's ability to respond to the site was hampered by the remote location of the sighting and the fact that many officers were participating in a youth hunting camp located elsewhere in the sector. Later information indicates that the jaguar left the tree approximately 15 minutes after being treed, so Department personnel would not have been able to independently confirm the sighting even had they responded immediately.
- The lion hunter initially indicated that some of his hounds were injured and later determined to seek veterinary assistance due to the injuries.
- As a result, Tim Snow was unable to meet with the hunter as planned that evening; however, the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).
- Officer Aaron Miller and I&E Specialist Mark Hart met with the hunter on Sunday and he showed them pictures and video of the cat; however, he did not provide copies to AGFD as he is considering his options due to the potential value of the photos. We continue to discuss options with the Reporting Party to determine if we might obtain copies of his photographs.
- Both AGFD personnel concurred that the animal appeared to be a jaguar. It was reported to be a healthy male jaguar in his prime.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
- AGFD will send the hair samples off for genetic testing if the materials prove suitable.
- Region 5 will follow-up with the reporting party on Monday to determine if he has decided to share any photos or video or not.
- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).

Working with Eric Gardner, our Chief of Nongame, we have put together this abstract. As information firms up and analysis allows for more definitive statement; the Department will provide follow-up information.

Larry Riley  
 Assistant Director  
 Wildlife Management Division  
 623-236-7302  
 623-680-2623 (cell)



## Eric Gardner

**From:** Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:01 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required  
**Attachments:** JaguarOcelot Directives 2010.08.17.pdf; 10a1A Permit - Signed Permit 2011.01.11.pdf

Very exciting news, even if I am the wrong Susan. Eric, I am not forwarding your e-mail anywhere because of the location information. Just wanted you to know.

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

To "Susan MacVean" <SMacVean@azgfd.gov>

11/20/2011 04:00 PM

cc <Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov>

Subject FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Looks like the wrong Susan went into the To line. ...

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 3:55 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Bill Burger; Lin Piest; 'Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov'; John Kraft; Dan Groebner; WMNG  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required  
**Importance:** High

Sorry Tim, left you off. Sorry!

FYI for the rest of you.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 3:47 PM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter; Ty Gray; Leonard Ordway; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Regional Supervisors; Mark Weise; Sharen Adams; Josh Avey; Kirk Young; Esther Rubin; Brian Wakeling; Jim Paxson;

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Brad Fulk  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:58 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Eric Gardner; Raul Vega; Leonard Ordway  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

All,

I contacted both the USFS and BLM and left messages with them at 1000am this morning.

Brad

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 7:10 PM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Brad Fulk  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Tom, Yep...understand. this should be a straight forward news release that we can get out before close of business. Fuax pax on my part using R. P.'s name that we will avoid in the future. Mark & Aaron to meet with R. P. Tomorrow 0800? Mark will get details to us post haste. More as we learn details. Best, Jim

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Tom Cadden  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 06:28 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Jim / Lynda,

Since I imagine whatever we send out will go to our constituent e-news lists, we will need to coordinate carefully on timing.

We have two other large mailings going out in the next two days: (1) the availability of the hunt recommendations for public review, and (2) draw results, currently planned for Tuesday morning.

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 04:25 PM  
**To:** Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Tom & Lynda, we will work with Mark Hart together a news release out tomorrow. Hopefully, we will have a photo to include, but that decision is in the hands of the R. P. I'll get with Lynda first thing Monday. Model after the ocelot release and run a draft by Mark. Best, Jim

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Eric Gardner

**Sent:** Sunday, November 20, 2011 03:47 PM US Mountain Standard Time

**To:** Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter; Ty Gray; Leonard Ordway; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan; Regional Supervisors; Mark Weise; Sharen Adams; Josh Avey; Kirk Young; Esther Rubin; Brian Wakeling; Jim Paxon; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt

**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Mark A. Hart; Lynda Lambert; Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; 'Bergman, David L - APHIS'

**Subject:** Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

All:

Yesterday morning, November 19, 2011, we received information of a jaguar observation that appears to be a valid sighting of a healthy, adult male jaguar. The sighting took place in the Whetstone Mountains, south of I-10. Detailed location and observation information will be provided by Region 5 in the near future; however the location should only be described as "the Whetstone Mountains" accept as approved by me. AGFD personnel have examined photos and video of the cat that were taken by the lion hunter whose dogs treed the animal. We are currently in discussions with him in an effort to obtain at least some of the photos for additional analysis and possibly future sighting comparisons. Region 5 personnel are also attempting to locate physical evidence at the site for genetic testing. Due to this confirmed sighting, there are specific actions that must be taken in accordance with both our Permit (attached) and the Jaguar and Ocelot Directive (also attached).

**Permit Stipulations:**

- Notification of Steve Spangle (USFWS AESO) within 24 hours: completed by me via phone and this email.
- Notification of Dave Bergman (APHIS) within 24 hours: completed – Mr. Bergman was contacted through his own sources and confirmed information with Bill Van Pelt that we were receiving through Tim Snow from the hunter, also notified by via voice message and this email.
- Notification of BLM or FS Supervisor within 24 hours: **to be completed by Region 5 personnel on Monday.**

**Jaguar Directive:**

- Jaguar Conservation Lead must inform the Director, E-Staff, Regional Supervisors, Development Branch, FOD and WMD Coordinators, all WMD Branch Chiefs, I&E Branch Chief: completed by various phone calls and this email and other emails.
- **In part, this notification is being made because you may have activities that need to be adjusted to comply with the attached jaguar directive. If you are not familiar with the directive, please review it to ensure you are in compliance with and are actively implementing any changes for which you are responsible.**
- Contact Tim Snow to get the exact sighting coordinates if you need to adjust activities within the set radius of the sighting (e.g. water development and survey flights, trapping, etc.). Remember to keep the locational information confidential.

**Press Release:**

- Jim Paxon and his staff will work with Region 5 staff (Tim Snow, Mark Hart, Raul Vega, Aaron Miller) to develop a press release. I will be in Albuquerque attending a meeting with the FWS but will be available by cell phone and email as needed (other than while in flight).

2/2/2012

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
623-236-7507

## Larry Riley

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**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:00 PM  
**To:** Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_Whetstone Mtns.doc

I talked with Commissioner Freeman on the phone briefly. I think he was leaping to some conclusions. I told him that I didn't have enough information to be able to reach any conclusions about wrong-doing. I told him that I'd leave that to Tim, Aaron, and Mark who were speaking directly with the RP. Part of his concern was about getting at the photos. I indicated that we were continuing our discussions with the RP about the photos and video, and that we were continuing to try to gain reasonable access to them while respecting the RPs rights.

---

**From:** Norm Freeman  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:00 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_Whetstone Mtns.doc

Thanks Larry  
So the way I read this he knew at the first tree it was a jag  
He either did not or could not control his dogs  
Photos are from the second tree  
I question that he should profit from photos that were acquired in that manner

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:05 AM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Norm Freeman  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_Whetstone Mtns.doc

Commissioner Freeman, This is a little bit more detailed information from Tim Snow that should help to clarify at least one of your questions. It appears that the hunter did not know that he was trailing a jaguar until he observed it treed.

---

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park. The RP stated that his eight hunting dogs had been "cold trailing" what he thought to be a large male mountain lion, based on their behavior, starting between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. He assumed the lion was either bedded down or on a kill. RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras.

Before the RP could call off the dogs, the jaguar left the tree and headed roughly northeast from a ridgeline on a downhill slope where it was again treed in a mesquite by the dogs after a roughly two mile

chase. During the course of the chase the jaguar could be heard roaring and hissing at the dogs, the RP said. Upon arriving near the tree, the RP staked seven of the dogs some distance away, staking one near the tree for safety reasons to keep the jaguar at bay while he gathered the other dogs. All eight dogs sustained injury during the chase, but none required veterinary treatment.

RP took many photos and shot video of the treed jaguar, from different angles and some in extreme close-up. RP estimates the jaguar weighed 200 pounds, and documented that it is a male. The jaguar appeared to be calm while treed, uninjured, and changed position at times where perched.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller and Public Information Officer Mark Hart responded to the scene of the second treeing approximately 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. Fifteen fine hair samples were collected from the tree, and ten claw marks were counted on the trunk of the tree. In addition, they viewed the photos and video and verified that the location was the same as depicted. No paw prints were visible in the area, and no scat was found.

After documentation the RP said he and his party moved away but remained in a position to see to jaguar, which climbed down after about 15 minutes, moving off in a southerly direction.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 4:41 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Larry Riley; Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Red

Thanks, Eric. Let me know regarding sharing this data as well as other jaguar data with U of A for monitoring project per my earlier email. Thanks.

Jean A. Calhoun  
 Assistant Field Supervisor  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 Arizona Ecological Services Office  
 201 North Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 Office: (520) 670-6150 ext. 223  
 Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

11/21/2011 01:19 PM

To <jean\_calhoun@fws.gov>

cc <Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov>, "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>, "Tim Snow" <TSnow@azgfd.gov>

Subject FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean, Here is the text regarding location from the Region 5 report. I will see if we have and if we can share the specific GPS coordinates. Seems likely in the interest of jaguar conservation, but need to make sure we have no FOIA concerns, etc.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

ell)

2/2/2012

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 5:27 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

FYI – Gary added some thoughts to the quick briefing I sent out earlier today. I think there are some good take home messages in it, even though it's not being transmitted in this form to the Commissioners now. I know you guys will be collaborating on the narrative of what transpired so that there is a single and consistent account. Some of Gary's comments (and questions) may be pertinent.

Note that, at Terry's suggestion, I also copied BLM, Counties, NPS, and some folks in Mexico.

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:41 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Bob Broscheid  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Larry,

Great product. I know you have launched to the Commission, so my edits are provided just FYI. . . mostly because there some of the nuances that drove my edits may be useful for our public notification efforts.

--Gary

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 7:37 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

I would like to send this quick summary to Commissioners if you believe appropriate. It's largely the excellent summary provided by Eric. I toned down the certainty aspect a touch.

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> AGFD Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in AGFD Field Supervisor Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist (Tim Snow).



- Tim worked with various Region 5 personnel to follow up on the report. The Department's ability to respond to the site was hampered by the remote location of the sighting and the fact that many officers were participating in a youth hunting camp located elsewhere in the sector. Later information indicates that the jaguar left the tree approximately 15 minutes after being treed, so Department personnel would not have been able to independently confirm the sighting even had they responded immediately.
- The lion hunter initially indicated that some of his hounds were injured and later determined to seek veterinary assistance due to the injuries.
- As a result, the hunter was unable to meet with Tim Snow as planned that evening; however, the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).
- AGFD Officer Aaron Miller and I&E Specialist Mark Hart met with the hunter on Sunday and he showed them pictures and video of the cat; however, he did not provide copies to AGFD as he is considering his options due to his belief that the photos may have financial value. We continue to discuss options with the Reporting Party to determine if we might obtain copies of his photographs.
- Both AGFD personnel concurred that the animal appeared to be an apparently healthy male jaguar.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
- AGFD will send the hair samples off for genetic testing and final, irrefutable species confirmation, if the materials prove suitable for testing.
- Region 5 will follow-up with the reporting party on Monday to determine if he has decided to share for publication and Department use any photos or video. He has indicated that, should he decide not to provide copies of the visuals to us, he is willing to permit Department staff to view the approximately 15 minutes of video he took. The primary challenge not having these materials in our possession for analysis is the inability to document pelage spotting patterns (which are unique for individual animals) for comparison with possible future jaguar sightings.
- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).
- Per our protocols, Region V personnel will inform livestock growers in the area of the presence of the animal. [Used to be true . . . still so?]
- Despite not having a copy of the visual materials in our possession, the Department does classify this as a [confirmed? Probable? . . . how does this mesh with our sighting classification process?] jaguar sighting.

Working with Eric Gardner, our Chief of Nongame, we have put together this abstract. As information firms up and analysis allows for more definitive statement; the Department will provide follow-up information.

Larry Riley  
 Assistant Director  
 Wildlife Management Division  
 623-236-7302  
 623-680-2623 (cell)

**Contact**

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer,  
Tucson  
Lynda Lambert (623) 236-  
7203  
Public Information Officer,  
Phoenix

**Arizona Game and Fish Department****NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider them to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

-30-

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes they have been discriminated against in any Game and Fish program or activity, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the Game and Fish Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phx., AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the Game and Fish Deputy Director as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800 367-8939.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park. The RP stated that his eight hunting dogs had been "cold trailing" what he thought to be a large male mountain lion, based on their behavior, starting between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. He assumed the lion was either bedded down or on a kill. RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras.

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After documentation the RP said he and his party moved away but remained in a position to see to jaguar, which climbed down after about 15 minutes, moving off in a southerly direction.

Jaguar siting A. Justice-Allen's notes After Nov 21, 2011

Photo - what info

Mark - brief summary

7:30-8:00 Sat AM - cold trail in Whetstone  
Sat 1-10 treed 1gr male jag. Called AGFD  
Called off dogs. Moved down hill. Dogs  
surrounded - (injured dogs) Treed in mesq.  
Staked dogs Shot 80 photos + video  
Watched jag moved off end 10 AM

Call came into D. Skinner then to sector  
supervisor. Log verified by field personnel. Collected hairs

\* ☐

- w/ Tim Snow?  
Trouble getting someone to roll.

Facilitated press conf. - successful. Follow up story  
w/ AZ daily Star, photog. issues. ~~We don't~~ photos  
w/ RP w/ held photos when told of conditions  
for AGFD accept

Eric - Permit req notif of <sup>Region</sup> FS/BLM; FWS  
notif early on. + APHIS noted done by Eric  
Not everyone has same info - more general  
than others - all have within rge some have  
Cyn.

Gary - After '97 tried to develop Jag conserv on  
voluntary basis (thru Jag conserv team). Discussion  
over years on pursuing (w/ dogs) + immob w/ dart  
- never done Macho B - fed case not closed, G.  
still reviewing. We need to make sure we have

full range of options (incid. capture or deliberate capture) + full set of protocols - dongs?  
etc - > 4 yrs since updated.

Need to complete permitting  
Need to look @ protocols (both)

(Don't remove things that haven't been confirmed)

Permit found valid - Sec 6 allowed

but jg removed from face of sec 10  
by FWS

Legally + approp restart jg lge carniv research.

Public involve

Restart JCT?

Lions + bears as surrogate - any academic rigor  
for use of surrogate. Bear + lion enough  
on their own.

(Some info of where known  
sympatry)

Investig reports

\* Phx zoo only \* UCD + WVHC seized in  
place by FWS - ask if will release

We need to review - panels -

Hair samples - Tawes/Randy?  
Mel.

Call to be made  
Let him know

In response BLM chimed in that scat + tracks  
found in San Pedro

- Prelim assess was lge PC (w/ DNA results)

Sharing of loc data.

UA got contract. Let FWS determine what UA  
knows.

plan to list staffing  
desk top. Et ready  
when ready w/ JCT

Loc data - Need to remind sister agencies of restrictions on info  
All of our jag data - info request  
FWS has it all - but Jean apparently doesn't  
know it

Specific to FWS - all others then referred to FWS  
Release w/o causing harm  
- 100 sq mile surround?

Occurrence record - } needs to be done  
When + where - }

Detailed info to Eric + Eric takes  
care of notifications

Courtesy broad info to County, stakeholders  
Official req. for comparison or do we just let it  
happen

Permit - work so no JCT?

Draft to deliver next JCT

Internal - how to pull trigger on protocol  
+ have it incorporated

Affidavit

Permit Stipulations

Jag team mtg - Douglass

Run it to ground - get the truth out  
Fact check / confirm + re confirm

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 11:16 AM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Sharen Adams; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Thanks Raul. Give me a call @ 602-350-4004 if needed.

Eric Gardner  
Office: 623-236-7507

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 11:01 AM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Sharen Adams; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

I'm out of the office, but believe Brad will be there or myself. I'll handle this  
Thanks  
500

**From:** Sharen Adams  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:43 AM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

I just spoke to Tim Snow; he does not feel comfortable representing the Department at the news conference. Ideally it would be nice to have Eric there with his LE background and TES background. I am afraid folks in the audience will bring up the issue relative to citing the RP. I am not sure Mark will be able to address that. Any way Raul or Brad could be there to represent the LE aspect?

*Sherrie*

**SHAREN L. ADAMS**  
**Field Operations Coordinator**  
Field Operations Division  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
Phone: (623) 236-7292  
Cell: (480) 276-0976  
FAX: (623) 236-7945  
[sadams@azgfd.gov](mailto:sadams@azgfd.gov)



---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:21 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

All,  
FYI. I'm now in the loop and working with Mark Hart and Brad on this new activity in region V. From my perspective this a positive interest for the Department that could gain us much credibility with many conservation groups in the state. I'll continue to work with Mark Hart and Phoenix personnel to ensure that we have good communication as we make decisions on this. As the ocelot incident this is another opportunity for us to let the public know how important wildlife conservation is to the Department. I'm on leave, but don't hesitate to call me if you need to. I'll keep you in the loop as we go

Good Day!  
Raul

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:47 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Gave 500 a briefing, Brad.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

---

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 07:40 PM  
**To:** Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Can one of you give me a call tonight, just need to get details about this. I should be up until 9:00PM

Thanks

Raul

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Department News  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 02:36 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** ALL @ External; ALL @ Flagstaff; ALL @ Kingman; ALL @ Mesa; All @ Phoenix; ALL @ Pinetop; ALL @ Tucson; ALL @ Yuma  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

---

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 11:16 AM  
**To:** Sharen Adams; Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxson; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Doubt I could make it from Prescott in time unless it is pushed back or moved to tomorrow (I am very unsuccessfully attempting to burn leave, but that's the way it goes). It is unlikely we'd divulge much from an LE perspective anyway, other than that we have no reason to believe AGFD will pursue any LE investigation but that ultimately the USFWS has authority for investigating T&E issues. Wouldn't think much more could or should be said. I am willing to head to Tucson if needed, but would think Aaron as the investigating officer would be best, or Raul as an alternative. Would be happy to talk by phone with anyone from AGFD regarding ESA issues.

Eric Gardner  
Office: 623-236-7507

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sharen Adams  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:42 AM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxson; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

I just spoke to Tim Snow; he does not feel comfortable representing the Department at the news conference. Ideally it would be nice to have Eric there with his LE background and TES background. I am afraid folks in the audience will bring up the issue relative to citing the RP. I am not sure Mark will be able to address that. Any way Raul or Brad could be there to represent the LE aspect?

*Sherrie*

**SHAREN L. ADAMS**  
**Field Operations Coordinator**  
Field Operations Division  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
Phone: (623) 236-7292  
Cell: (480) 276-0976  
FAX: (623) 236-7945  
[sadams@azgfd.gov](mailto:sadams@azgfd.gov)

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:21 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Eric Gardner; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

All,  
FYI. I'm now in the loop and working with Mark Hart and Brad on this new activity in region V. From my perspective this a positive interest for the Department that could gain us much credibility with many conservation groups in the state. I'll continue to work with Mark Hart and Phoenix personnel to ensure that we have good communication as we make decisions on this. As the ocelot incident this is another opportunity for us to let the public know how important wildlife conservation is to the Department. I'm on leave, but don't hesitate to call me if you need to. I'll keep you in the loop as we go

Good Day!  
Raul

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:47 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Gave 500 a briefing, Brad.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Raul Vega  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 07:40 PM  
**To:** Brad Fulk; Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

Can one of you give me a call tonight, just need to get details about this. I should be up until 9:00PM

Thanks

Raul

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Department News  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 02:36 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** ALL @ External; ALL @ Flagstaff; ALL @ Kingman; ALL @ Mesa; All @ Phoenix; ALL @ Pinetop; ALL @ Tucson; ALL @ Yuma  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

The department issued the following news release today to media. Media inquiries should be referred

## Larry Riley

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 23, 2011 3:26 PM  
**To:** 'Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov'  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

Thank you so much!

Lawrence M. Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

623-236-7302  
[lriley@azgfd.gov](mailto:lriley@azgfd.gov)

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---

**From:** Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov [mailto:Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 23, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt; Eric Gardner; marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Terry Johnson; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; scott\_richardson@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Fw: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011

I'm sorry, I typed in Marit's email incorrectly. I'm resending with the correction.

----- Forwarded by Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/23/2011 12:28 PM -----

Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI

11/23/2011 10:57 AM

To "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>  
cc "Bill Vanpelt" <BVanpelt@azgfd.gov>, "Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>, marit\_alanen@fws.gov, TJohnson@azgfd.gov, Jean Calhoun/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Scott Richardson/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS  
Subject RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011 [Link](#)

Here you are, Larry.....

Marit Alanen  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
201 N Bonita Ave, Suite 141  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Ph: (520) 670-6150 x 234  
Fx: (520) 670-6155

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 7:42 AM  
**To:** 'Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov'  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Thanks Susan. We initially thought we'd announce the mtn range but then backed off from that a bit to just "south of I-10".

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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<http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/subscribe.shtml>

---

**From:** Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov [mailto:Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 9:01 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Very exciting news, even if I am the wrong Susan. Eric, I am not forwarding your e-mail anywhere because of the location information. Just wanted you to know.

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

To "Susan MacVean" <SMacVean@azgfd.gov>

11/20/2011 04:00 PM

cc <Susan\_MacMullin@fws.gov>

Subject FW: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Looks like the wrong Susan went into the To line. ...

2/2/2012

## Michelle Black

---

**Subject:** Jaguar Report from Region V  
**Location:** Kingfisher Conf.Rm - Telephonic (OPEN FOR DIAL IN NUMBERS)

**Start:** Mon 11/28/2011 3:00 PM  
**End:** Mon 11/28/2011 4:30 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Required Attendees:** Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock; Rebecca Lopez  
**Optional Attendees:** Lizette Morgan; John Bullington

**You are welcome to invite others to attend.**

If you are located outside of Phoenix please Dial-In as follows:

Meeting Access Numbers:

Internal Callers Dial - [REDACTED]

Local Callers Dial - [REDACTED]

All Other Callers Dial - [REDACTED]

Enter meeting ID - [REDACTED]

Press 1

Speak name or location followed by the # key

Purpose of the meeting is to ensure we are all on the same page at this point in the process of managing this situation.

Folks should be prepared to talk about:

- Press release (I expect that to be on the street before this meeting)
- Current state of discussions with the RP about the visual material
- Status of our permit issues, if any.
- Status of required notification, e.g., Federal partners under our ESA permit, livestock growers under our JAGCT protocols, etc.
- Status of the materials collected from the location of the sighting.
- Way ahead for the future, i.e., what next?
  - At a minimum, we will be discussing dusting off the current capture protocols to ensure we are postured to be, in the future, to be fully prepared to make a recommendation to the Director regarding an attempt to collar a jaguar . . .
  - the current circumstances we find ourselves in (somewhat dated protocols, no reliable collar, no slate of previously identified team members, no table-top exercise of the protocols, somewhat dated permit relationship with USFWS, etc.) dictated our decision this time.
  - Given the priorities of the past two years, that is no one's fault, but when there is a "next time", we need to be prepared for the full range of potential options. Currently, we are not prepared to be more active.
- Resource requirements.
- The public engagement we committed to as part of our management of the aftermath of the capture, re-capture and euthanization of Macho B.
- Other issues as brought up by the assembled masses.

## Michelle Black

---

**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Report from Region V  
**Location:** Kingfisher Conf.Rm - Telephonic (OPEN FOR DIAL IN NUMBERS)

**Start:** Mon 11/28/2011 3:00 PM  
**End:** Mon 11/28/2011 4:30 PM  
**Show Time As:** Tentative

**Recurrence:** (none)

**Meeting Status:** Not yet responded

**Organizer:** Gary R. Hovatter

---

**From:** Rebecca Lopez **On Behalf Of** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:06 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Ty Gray; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Terry Johnson; Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Tom Cadden; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Brian Wakeling; Ron Day; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock; Rebecca Lopez  
**Cc:** Lizette Morgan; John Bullington  
**Subject:** Jaguar Report from Region V  
**When:** Monday, November 28, 2011 3:00 PM-4:30 PM (GMT-07:00) Arizona.  
**Where:** Kingfisher Conf.Rm - Telephonic (OPEN FOR DIAL IN NUMBERS)

**You are welcome to invite others to attend.**

If you are located outside of Phoenix please Dial-In as follows:

Meeting Access Numbers:

Internal Callers Dial - [REDACTED]  
Local Callers Dial - [REDACTED]  
All Other Callers Dial - [REDACTED]  
Enter meeting ID - [REDACTED]  
Press 1  
Speak name or location followed by the # key

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- Resource requirements.
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- Other issues as brought up by the assembled masses.



**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:19 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Jim Odenkirk; Raul Vega; Gabriel Paz; Tim Snow; Larry Riley  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_redacts.doc

Mark,

Here is a redacted version. Note the file name change as well since the original had the mountain range named in it.

We do have a new process on how we respond to public records requests (set by Rules and Risk Mgmt.). If you determine a need to follow that verbatim, we need to get the request down on the form (as you mentioned earlier), then provide the original record, which I can redact using a marker as needed (working with Jim Odenkirk) and then copy and scan the document. In truth, that would be the best way to handle this as we are not required to create any new records in response to a PR request.

However, I did create a new record (see attached), and if you determine that the RP will be satisfied with the redacted version (I took out some of the location info and all names), I think we'd be okay sending it to him. However, you should still complete a formal records request form. If you think sending the redacted version is the way to do, please give everyone in the cc line an opportunity to comment on the document.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 11:40 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Raul Vega; Gabriel Paz  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Eric, a redacted version of the attached would probably satisfy the student's request. In addition, the hair samples are in Gabe Paz's custody and he will transport to Phoenix and deliver to Anne on Monday. Raul, this document is what Tim Snow and I worked on together and sent to Phoenix on Nov. 21. It is

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park. The RP stated that his eight hunting dogs had been "cold trailing" what he thought to be a large male mountain lion, based on their behavior, starting between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. He assumed the lion was either bedded down or on a kill. RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras.

Before the RP could call off the dogs, the jaguar left the tree and headed roughly northeast from a ridgeline on a downhill slope where it was again treed in a mesquite by the dogs after a roughly two mile chase. During the course of the chase the jaguar could be heard roaring and hissing at the dogs, the RP said. Upon arriving near the tree, the RP staked seven of the dogs some distance away, staking one near the tree for safety reasons to keep the jaguar at bay while he gathered the other dogs. All eight dogs sustained injury during the chase, but none required veterinary treatment.

RP took many photos and shot video of the treed jaguar, from different angles and some in extreme close-up. RP estimates the jaguar weighed 200 pounds, and documented that it is a male. The jaguar appeared to be calm while treed, uninjured, and changed position at times where perched.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller and Public Information Officer Mark Hart responded to the scene of the second treeing approximately 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. Fifteen fine hair samples were collected from the tree, and ten claw marks were counted on the trunk of the tree. In addition, they viewed the photos and video and verified that the location was the same as depicted. No paw prints were visible in the area, and no scat was found.

After documentation the RP said he and his party moved away but remained in a position to see to jaguar, which climbed down after about 15 minutes, moving off in a southerly direction.

AGFD was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in a mountain range south of I-10 and east of Tucson.

The RP stated that his eight hunting dogs had been "cold trailing" what he thought to be a large male mountain lion, based on their behavior, starting between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. He assumed the lion was either bedded down or on a kill. RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras.

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AGFD personnel responded to the scene of the second treeing approximately 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. Fifteen fine hair samples were collected from the tree, and ten claw marks were counted on the trunk of the tree. In addition, they viewed the photos and video and verified that the location was the same as depicted. No paw prints were visible in the area, and no scat was found.

After documentation the RP said he and his party moved away but remained in a position to see to jaguar, which climbed down after about 15 minutes, moving off in a southerly direction.

## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 2:46 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Robert Fink; Raul Vega; Pat Barber; Leonard Ordway  
**Subject:** Nov 2011 Jag Folder  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Red  
**Attachments:** DFenn\_Nov2011.pdf; 111121\_Jaguar\_report\_confirmed\_nr.doc; Jaguar Observation Report\_Nov 2011\_Whetstone Mtns.doc; Jaguar\_Nov2011.JPG

Eric – Here is the folder containing the observation form, the press release, the account from Mark Hart/Aaron Miller and a map concerning the Nov 2011 jaguar observation. I created the map with the location that the animal was last treed and a circle of the first encounter; these are based on the interviews and may not be depicted in the testimony of the text reports. These are all that I maintain in my observation files, as that is all I need to verify or document the observation/investigation.

Please let me know if I should or need to be recording or hanging on to additional information for these types of reports.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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CLASS 1 - Confirmed

## Arizona Game and Fish Department

### Reported Jaguar/Ocelot/Jaguarundi Observation Form

Interviewer (Name / Job Title): A. Miller, WM Unit 34A&B Interview Date: 2011-11-20

Observer (Name): Donnie Fenn Phone (H, C): [REDACTED] (W): [REDACTED]

Address: Benson, AZ Occupation: lion hunter w/dogs (guide)

Relevant Biological/  
Outdoor Experience: lion hunter / houndsman Additional Observers: [REDACTED]

Contact Info: [REDACTED]

Original report date: 2011-11-19 Reported via: ☒ Phone ☐ e-mail/letter ☐ in person

Report received by: D. Skinner Agency: AZGFD

**Observation Details:**

Date of Observation: 2011-11-19

Location (state, county, legal, GPS coordinates with Datum, etc.): AZ, Cochise County, [REDACTED]

Description of site (habitat, land use, etc.)  
including visibility (open hillside, brushy, etc.): Mesquite grassland, first encountered in Bathtub Canyon (Spring?). Whetstone Mountains

Description of event/  
observation: While lion hunting, dogs got on the trail in Bathtub Canyon (Spring?). west of Kartchner Caverns State Park. Animal was treed/bayed at approximately 200 yards. Before arriving animal left and re-treed 2 miles north

Time of day: 7:30:00 AM Duration (total time of observation): last seen ~ 2.00 ☒ Photo taken: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Location of the sun to observer: ☒ overhead ☐ behind animal ☐ behind observer

Number of animals seen: 1 Distance from observer: < 10 yards Optical aids used: camera / binos

**Description of animal:**

Body (color, size, markings, etc): spotted w/ rosettes, stocky build, healthy male, approx. 200 lbs

Tail (longer/shorter than body): long as body Head/Face: blocky, bigger than a lion

Legs/Feet: shorter than a lion's Other: [REDACTED]

Behavior of animal: animal could be hissing and roaring at the dogs during pursuit

Other sign(s) observed (tracks, scat, prey remains, etc.): none noted

**Specific Questions for the Reporting Party:**

Observer's first impression: thought they may be on a lion near a kill site; recognized as jaguar from 200 yards

Were notes taken during the observation ☐ or from memory? ☒

Were References used in your decision? ☐ Field guide(s) ☐ Advice from friends/colleagues ☐ Images from Internet

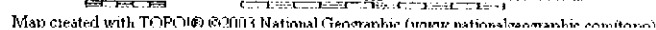
If used, how did this change or influence your decision? [REDACTED]

Describe how/why similar species were discounted: [REDACTED]

**Actions/Follow-up:** (for agency personnel only) WM and PIO conducted site visit on 11/20/2011

**Reasons for acceptance/denial:** Visual or physical evidence provided \ confirmed to be jaguar/ocelot/jaguarundi

**Additional Notes:** Video footage and photographs reviewed. Confirmed location and jaguar from video and site visit.



## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** Gabriel Paz  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 10:03 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner; Raul Vega  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

The hair samples were delivered to Anne today.

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 11:40 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Raul Vega; Gabriel Paz  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

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Raul, this document is what Tim Snow and I worked on together and sent to Phoenix on Nov. 21. It is the only report generated by the region thus far, to my knowledge.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
Mhart@azgfd.gov

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Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Twitter page

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:17 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar report  
  
**Importance:** High

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 8:45 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega  
**Subject:** Jaguar report  
**Importance:** High

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park. The RP stated that his eight hunting dogs had been "cold trailing" what he thought to be a large male mountain lion, based on their behavior, starting between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. He assumed the lion was either bedded down or on a kill. RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras.

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RP took many photos and shot video of the treed jaguar, from different angles and some in extreme close-up. RP estimates the jaguar weighed 200 pounds, and documented that it is a male. The jaguar appeared to be calm while treed, uninjured, and changed position at times where perched.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Aaron Miller and Public Information Officer Mark Hart responded to the scene of the second treeing approximately 1:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20. Fifteen fine hair samples were collected from the tree, and ten claw marks were counted on the trunk of the tree. In addition, they viewed the photos and video and verified that the location was the same as depicted. No paw prints were visible in the area, and no scat was found.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson



## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:19 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:42 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

Have conveyed requests from Channels 3 and 5 in Phoenix, which RP has declined.

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:28 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

She'd like us to ask the RP if he will call/email her regarding getting a jag photo.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:27 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

She understands no jaguar? She called.

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:26 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

Here's the first request. She'd like to get a photo emailed to her for tonight's news cast.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

**From:** Beardsley, Margaret [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:24 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** jaguar pictures

Requesting Jaguar pictures...

Margaret E. Beardsley  
3tv Executive Producer  
602-207-3454

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:18 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

Have spoken with the RP again at the request of Tony Davis for an interview. RP declines a phoner, but expressed willingness to interview in-person.

That being the case, I recommended a news conference either here at FOR5 or his place. His is considering.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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[Click here for the Tucson office Facebook page](#)  
[Click here for the Tucson office Twitter page](#)

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:43 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

Thanks for trying. FYI -- I've only received the one call from Channel 3.

Regards,  
*Lynda Lambert*  
Public Information Officer

**Bill Vanpelt**

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 1:15 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: more jaguar info?

Our meeting starts at 3. Will be after it.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 10:23 AM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** more jaguar info?

hi!!!

do you any more info regarding the jag???

-----  
Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez  
Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro  
Cerro de las Campanas S/N  
Col. Las Campanas  
Queretaro, Qro. C. P. 76010  
Tel 442-192-1200 ext. 5341  
Email: [REDACTED]

"conservation without money is just conversation"

"The truth is more important than the facts". --Frank Lloyd Wright

**Bill Vanpelt**

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 1:43 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: more jaguar info?

Carlos,

Here is the news release for the sighting:  
[http://myazgfd/artman2/publish/news/Jaguar\\_sighting\\_in\\_southeast\\_Arizona.shtml](http://myazgfd/artman2/publish/news/Jaguar_sighting_in_southeast_Arizona.shtml).

We are to start posting information on the Department's Endangered Species Update web page. Go to [www.azgfd.gov/signup](http://www.azgfd.gov/signup). It free.

Bill Van Pelt

WAFWA Grassland Coordinator

Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 West Carefree Highway

Phoenix, Arizona 85086

bvanpelt@azgfd.gov

623-236-7573 Office

623-236-7926 Fax



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 1:22 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt

**Subject:** Re: more jaguar info?

ok..will you send me an update or a link to go read about it...  
THX man...

-----  
Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez  
Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro  
Cerro de las Campanas S/N  
Col. Las Campanas  
Queretaro, Qro. C. P. 76010  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

"conservation without money is just conversation"

"The truth is more important than the facts". --Frank Lloyd Wright

In a message dated 11/28/2011 2:16:18 P.M. Central Standard Time (Me, BVanpelt@azgfd.gov writes:

Our meeting starts at 3. Will be after it.

Bill Van Pelt

WAFWA Grassland Coordinator

Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 West Carefree Highway

Phoenix, Arizona 85086

bvanpelt@azgfd.gov

623-236-7573 Office

623-236-7926 Fax



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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 10:23 AM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** more jaguar info?

hi!!!

do you any more info regarding the jag???

-----  
Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez  
Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro  
Cerro de las Campanas S/N  
Col. Las Campanas  
Queretaro, Qro. C. P. 76010  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

"conservation without money is just conversation"

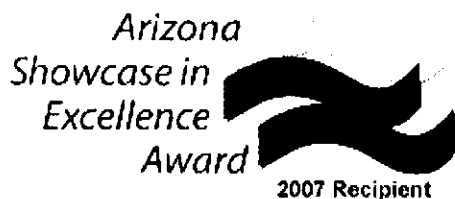
"The truth is more important than the facts". --Frank Lloyd Wright

## Bill Vanpelt

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 1:50 PM  
**To:** 'Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez'  
**Subject:** RE: wolf incident and jaguar

The reporting party wants to have a news conference before detailed information can be obtained from him. The news conference is today at 230. Stay tuned.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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Do not forget to buy your hunting and fishing license go to [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:53 AM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** Fwd: wolf incident and jaguar

---  
Dr. Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez  
Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro  
Cerro de las Campanas S/N  
Col. Las Campanas  
Queretaro, Qro. C. P. 76010  
[REDACTED]

"Conservation without money is just conversation!"

-----Original Message-----



From: Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez [REDACTED]  
To: BVanpelt <BVanpelt@gf.state.az.us>  
Sent: Tue, Nov 22, 2011 6:50 am  
Subject: wolf incident and jaguar

Hi Bill!

I just got my ass kicked because of the wolf deal. So in the future I probably have access to the wolf info. one of those shitty deals....

what happened with the jag? anymore info...can you share the location of the animal???

Carlos

---  
Dr. Carlos A. Lopez Gonzalez  
Universidad Autonoma de Queretaro  
Cerro de las Campanas S/N  
Col. Las Campanas  
Queretaro, Qro. C. P. 76010  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

"Conservation without money is just conversation!"

**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:18 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 3:19 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

For sure.

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 3:18 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

If that happens, I'd like to be there so keep me posted! Thanks.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:52 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar photo request to forward to RP

Have spoken with the RP again at the request of Tony Davis for an interview. RP declines a phoner, but expressed willingness to interview in-person.

That being the case, I recommended a news conference either here at FOR5 or his place. His is considering.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

**Bill Vanpelt**

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 3:27 PM  
**To:** 'Cara Liu'; Randy Babb; Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** Jaguar information

I am available if you need anything for background information for the story.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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**From:** Cara Liu [mailto: [REDACTED]]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 3:23 PM  
**To:** Randy Babb; Lynda Lambert; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE:

We probably will not need any additional interviews after all- we will go with whatever is available from the Tucson press conference this afternoon. However, I am also looking for photos as soon as they are available. Thanks! Exciting stuff!

**From:** Randy Babb [mailto:RBabb@azgfd.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 2:10 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Bill Vanpelt; Cara Liu  
**Subject:**

Lynda,

Cara Liu from Ch 5 would like to do an interview about the jaguar. I understand that Bill Vanpelt is acting as our subject matter expert. Could you please help Cara Liu out.

Thanks,

Randall D. Babb  
Arizona Game and Fish Dept.  
7200 E. University  
Mesa, AZ 85207  
480-324-3546

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2/8/2012

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Brian Wakeling  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:30 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar coverage

FYI. I received this from Larry Audsley because I serve on the AWF Board, but he also copied Mark Hart on this email. Tony Davis is obviously trying to identify the hunter and location while sharing his usual cheer.

Brian Wakeling  
 Game Branch Chief  
 623-236-7385

**From:** LAUDSLEY@aol.com [mailto:LAUDSLEY@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:16 AM

**To:** [REDACTED];  
 [REDACTED];  
 [REDACTED];  
 [REDACTED]; Brian Wakeling; [REDACTED];  
 [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Jaguar coverage

Tony Davis of Tucson's Az Daily Star called me yesterday afternoon hoping I would know the name of the hunter who treed the jaguar and the specific location. I knew neither, but in the course of our conversation I issued some statements that he quoted in his story. AWF has not developed a position on collaring jaguars, so I hope no one is too upset by my remarks, which reflect the thoughts of people I've spoken to in USFWS and the Jaguar Recovery Team. Based on what I've read and been told by people who should know, itinerant or expatriate males are little more than conversation pieces. For the borderlands to be supplemental jaguar habitat that helps sustain the species, we'd need a breeding population.

Here's the story that ran this morning.

## Jaguar seen in area of Cochise

- [Tony Davis and Tim Steller Arizona Daily Star Arizona Daily Star](#) | Posted: Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:00 am | [Comments](#)

A hunter photographed an adult male jaguar in Southeast Arizona after his dogs treed it, Arizona Game and Fish Department officials said Monday.

The sighting Saturday in Cochise County was the first confirmed report of a wild jaguar in the United States since the death of Macho B in Arizona in March 2009. It may have been the fifth wild jaguar - all males - seen in Arizona since 1996. The jaguar is listed as an endangered species in the United States and Mexico.

An experienced mountain lion hunter spotted the jaguar Saturday morning about 15 feet up a mesquite tree and reported it to Game and Fish. The hunter was led to the large cat by his dogs, who were baying and starting to pursue the animal as if on the trail of a lion, said Mark Hart, a Game and Fish spokesman.

Officials said the hunter had not given permission to release his name, and the department declined to specify the location.

The hunter photographed and shot video of the jaguar, then left with his dogs and watched the animal from a distance. The jaguar stayed in the tree for 15 minutes before jumping down and heading south.

Based on the photos and video, Game and Fish officials described the jaguar as an adult male that appeared healthy and weighed about 200 pounds. Game and Fish biologists went to the sighting location to verify that the photos and videos were taken there, Hart said.

"It all checked out," Hart said. "We started at the exact same point where they (the photos and video) were shot. We saw tree branches where they were supposed to be, and they absolutely looked the same as in the photos. We counted about 10 marks of claws where a large animal had climbed the tree."

The biologists also collected hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish officials said they saw the photos and video in the hunter's possession, but don't have their own copies yet to release publicly.

The department hopes to compare the photos with those of other jaguars sighted in Arizona and of two jaguars photographed this year by remote cameras at a ranch in Sonora about 30 miles south of the border, Hart said.

"I think it will be critical for them to compare the rosettes" - a jaguar's unique spots - "with photos of the two cats from Sonora, and not just Arizona records," said Melanie Emerson, director of the Sky Island Alliance, the Tucson conservation group whose cameras photographed the Sonoran jaguars.

The last known jaguar in the United States, 15-year-old Macho B, was euthanized in March 2009 at the Phoenix Zoo after he was captured just north of Mexico, radio-collared and recaptured 12 days later after he slowed dramatically. Authorities determined he had unrecoverable kidney failure, but the death led to one state and two federal investigations, including a federal criminal investigation that ended last May. The state investigation is continuing.

Otherwise, none of the four male wild jaguars previously seen in Arizona in the last 15 years have been reported since 2006. Because none were female, some scientists have said Arizona no longer has a resident jaguar population.

Environmental groups such as the Center for Biological Diversity have said they believe Arizona jaguars could breed again with stronger recovery efforts, and their litigation forced the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to start to prepare a jaguar recovery plan last year.

"It is good news, but it's not a surprise," Sky Island wildlife biologist Sergio Avila said of the latest sighting. "Jaguars don't think in terms of countries - they think in terms of the land. This is just proof that the land can sustain jaguars."

But since this is another male, "I would guess" that Arizona jaguars will be limited to surplus males that have reason to migrate from Mexico, said Larry Audsley, the Arizona Wildlife Federation's Southern Arizona regional director.

"Whenever that happens, some people will get excited, and there will be applications for funding to go study it, but the presence of one male jaguar has no ecological significance," Audsley said. "What would make a difference is discovering a female jaguar because that opens the possibility of a breeding population."

Regardless of the ecological significance, the public should be thrilled by this sighting, Game and Fish's Hart said.

"This is another example of biodiversity in the region ... whether the scientific community deems it significant or not, that's not as important to us as letting the public know there is a male jaguar in Southeast Arizona," Hart said.

Audsley said that assuming this jaguar is healthy enough, authorities should try to capture and radio-collar him, to learn where he actually goes.

"Just because you know where it was when it was photographed, that can be a place where it doesn't go very often. To really know, you need a collar on him, even with the risks."

But the department has no plans to try to capture this animal, or to even discuss that possibility, Hart said. The agency drew widespread criticism over the 2009 Macho B capture, which occurred during a state-run study of black bear and mountain lions. They denied playing any role in engineering the Macho B capture. A private biologist who admitted to trying to capture the animal, Emil McCain, was working as a state subcontractor until a few months before the capture occurred.

Before authorities capture another jaguar, they should at least have a blueprint for recovering the species, and explain what they would do with information they would get from collaring another one, said Michael Robinson of the Center for Biological Diversity.

On StarNet: Search our database of bears, birds, beasts and bugs at [azstarnet.com/critters](http://azstarnet.com/critters)

To contact reporters: Tony Davis at [tdavis@azstarnet.com](mailto:tdavis@azstarnet.com) or 806-7746; Tim Steller at [tsteller@azstarnet.com](mailto:tsteller@azstarnet.com) or 807-8427.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 11:34 AM

**To:**

[REDACTED]

**Cc:** Marit\_Alanen@fws.gov

**Subject:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

FYI.....



**Contact:**

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.





The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider the images to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

-30-

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**Eric Gardner**

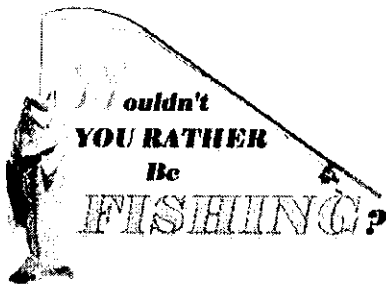
**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:59 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Jaguar: RE: Possible jaguar press conference

I agree with Gary's pros and cons and will add a couple of cautionary notes.

First, from emails yesterday it seemed that the RP was interested in making money from the photography/video. If his intent is to use the media event to forward those interests, AGFD should be aware of that before committing to anything.

Second, APPARENTLY the RP did NOT immediately abandon chase. Instead, he intelligently, if perhaps unlawfully (I don't think we tied up that loose end in the ocelot discussions last Spring), kept the jaguar bayed while shooting confirming video and taking photos. If true, are we sure that we can handle any environmentalist criticisms in a media event that raise the question of whether "take" under ESA did in fact occur? Are we equally sure that USFWS will agree with our response, either way? If the photos/video are withheld from AGFD and USFWS until financial gain has been made, would that "commercialization" change the USFWS interpretation on whether non-injurious take occurred while the jaguar was kept treed for "documentation?"

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
 \*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:19 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference  
**Importance:** High

2/2/2012

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:26 AM  
**To:** Brian Wakeling; Jim Paxon; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Larry Voyles; Sharen Adams; Tom Cadden; Ty Gray; Bob Broscheid; Gary R. Hovatter; John Bullington; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Lizette Morgan; Ty Gray  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar coverage

Brian et al,

First, to Mark, Tim, Aaron and the others in Region V who made the field response happen . . . very, very well done!

Kudos also to the Phoenix/Region V information team for their work getting the release built and on the road.

With regard to Larry Audsley's voice in this story . . . I think he came across as knowledgeable and responsible. His observations and comments line up well with the quote included in our press release (which I notice the Arizona Daily Star chose not to use) in which the USFWS, in its 2006 consideration of jaguar critical habitat, said: "As noted by the USFWS in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report goes on to observe that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the United State may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population.""

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Brian Wakeling  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:30 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Raul Vega; Mark A. Hart; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar coverage

FYI. I received this from Larry Audsley because I serve on the AWF Board, but he also copied Mark Hart on this email. Tony Davis is obviously trying to identify the hunter and location while sharing his usual cheer.

Brian Wakeling  
 Game Branch Chief  
 623-236-7385

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:16 AM

**To:** [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]

2/2/2012

## Michelle Black

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**From:** email@addthis.com on behalf of mhart@azgfd.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 3:23 PM  
**To:** Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighted southeast of Tucson by hunter over weekend | KVOA.com | Tucson, Arizona

FYI

<http://www.kvoa.com/news/jaguar-sighted-southeast-of-tucson-by-hunter-over-weekend/#.TsrPNHHFyfw.email>

---

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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:19 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

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**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:36 PM  
**To:** The Tombstone News  
**Subject:** RE: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

Please call.

---

**From:** The Tombstone News [mailto:editor@thetombstonenews.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:35 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

Do you know what area this was in? Would like to put a little more detail in there for an article if possible. Thanks!

Samantha

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart [mailto:MHart@azgfd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:23 PM  
**Subject:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona



**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

### NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Contact:**  
Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

## Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

TUCSON, Ariz. — The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:20 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:23 PM  
**To:** Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Wildcat; Arizona News Radio; Arizona Public Media; Associated Press; Aztec Press; Daily Territorial; Desert Lightning News ; KGUN-TV; KGUN-TV; KMSB-TV; KMSB-TV; KNST-AM; KOLD-TV; KOLD-TV; KUAT; KUAT; KVOA-TV; KVOA-TV; KVOA-TV; KVOI-AM; KXCI-FM; Lee Allen; Tucson Citizen; Tucson Weekly; Tucson Weekly; Benson/San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Benson/San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KGVY-AM; KKYZ-FM; KOHN-FM; KTAN-AM & K101/KWCD-FM; KTAN-AM & KZMK-FM; Nogales International; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald/Bisbee Daily Review; Sierra Vista Herald; Tombstone Epitaph; Tombstone News; Tombstone Tumbleweed; Tubac Villager; Tubac Villager; Douglas Dispatch; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Ghost Town Trail News ; KATO-AM/KXKQ-FM; KHIL-AM & KWCX-FM; Willcox Range News; Willcox Range News; Arizona City Independent; Arizona Jackpot; Casa Grande Dispatch; Eloy Enterprise; Explorer News; Explorer News; Florence Reminder & Blade Tribune; KCDX-FM; KCMT-FM; KPYT-FM; KWXL-FM; Marana Weekly News; Pinal Ways; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Tan Valley Today; Southern Arizona Wildlife Callers  
**Subject:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona



**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**Contact:**  
Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

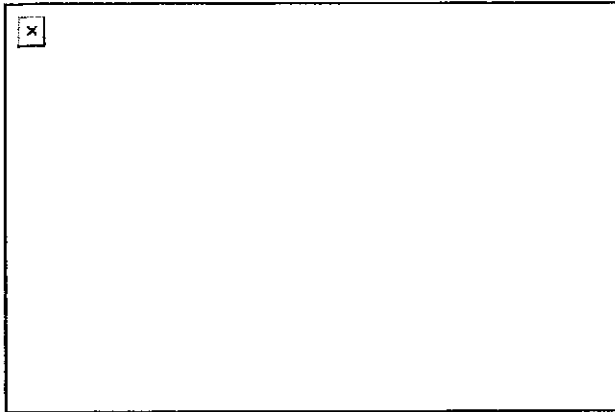
### NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.



The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for

approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider the images to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

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## Michelle Black

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**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:21 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 1:04 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

U  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:38 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Bill Vanpelt; Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxson; Tim Snow; Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller; Eric Gardner; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Folks,

I understand some of the Commissioner's concerns. I do think that, much akin to the Commission's concerns about taking too heavy a hand with self-reporting violators of Title 17, a prosecution of a case like this would take a major step in the direction of guaranteeing that we never get reports like it in the future. At this point, it is not our intention to pursue a prosecution. That said, the Feds also get a vote under their own authorities.

That said:

- It seems clear that the hunter did not immediately know his dogs were in pursuit of a jaguar.
- Once he did, it seems he needed time to recover his dogs, never a certain or easy process.
- During the course of the process, he took the time to take photos and some video. Without that photo documentation, it would be hard for us to take this sighting seriously. I would have expected our folks to have visited the scene anyway to attempt to collect hair, scat, track information, etc., but that is not certain to result in confirmation.
- Title 17 makes it illegal to "knowingly kill, wound or possess a jaguar or any part thereof". It does not criminalize pursuit and, in fact, makes a point of taking into consideration the "good faith" intent of an individual even when a jaguar is killed or wounded. In that regard, I don't think I see a Title 17 violation in the acts of this RP, at least under the specific portion dealing with jaguars.
- ESA of 1973:
  - It is clear that pursuit is included in the definition of "take" and that unauthorized take is a violation of ESA.
  - However, it is equally clear that to be in violation (either civil or criminal) the act must be taken "knowingly".
  - Even in the unlikely event that an RP had ESA training, in the case of hunting with dogs there is most likely to be a part of the event (as it seems in this case) where there is no "knowing" act on the part of the hunter.
  - Regardless, this would seem to be the jurisdiction of the USFWS and they have been informed.

As always, I defer to those with more legal background on this issue than I have.

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Larry Riley

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:45 AM

**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon; Gary R. Hovatter; Tim Snow; Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller; Eric Gardner

**Subject:** FW: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Bill, I like your addition. There is only one point of sensitivity I've picked up on. The only Commissioner that has called me back on the short briefing I sent out this morning was Comm. Freeman.

He posed a question to me about the 'double treeing' and whether the photos were being collected up as part of an investigation of the hunter. He appears to be sensitive on this subject.

I told him that I did not have sufficient information to infer any wrong-doing on the part of the hunter. That I'd defer to Tim, Aaron, and Mark in their discussions with the RP to determine if there was any cause for suspicion. The Commissioner was formulating a view that the photos or video were acquired during an unlawful act. I tried to dispel that we had any information to suggest that the hunter had done anything wrong at this point, and that lion hunters are an excellent source of information about large carnivores. I told him that our discussions with the RP were continuing today, and that we were still trying to gain access to the photos for our narrow use (i.e., animal identification, confirmation, comparisons, etc).

I just wanted you to be aware that the Commissioner was formulating thoughts based on his questions about the animal being treed twice.

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:35 AM

**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller

**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Here is the attachment.

Gary like your additions.

Bill Van Pelt

WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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---

**From:** Lynda Lambert

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:00 AM

**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller

**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Hi,

Attached is a draft news release on the jaguar sighting this weekend for your review and comment. Please provide me with your input as soon as possible, as we plan to get this distributed to media this morning.

Note that in keeping with department precedent, we will not refer to the location of the animal any more specifically than to classify it as "south of Tucson" due to the species endangered listing.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

Arizona Game and Fish Department

T: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

llambert@azgfd.gov

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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:18 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: AZ daily star info request on Jaguar

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 5:05 PM  
**To:** Bryan Marshall  
**Subject:** Re: AZ daily star info request on Jaguar

Thanks Bryan we have talked with him.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Bryan Marshall  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 04:25 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** AZ daily star info request on Jaguar

USDA contacted me stating that Tim Stellar (sp?) from the Arizona Daily Star has contacted him, requesting info about the recent Jaguar sighting. Tim's number is 520-807-8427.

*Bryan Marshall*

Wildlife Manager 35A/B  
Arizona Game and Fish Dept.  
[bmarshall@azgfd.gov](mailto:bmarshall@azgfd.gov)  
(520) 591-4721

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Click here to enroll in the online Introductory Hunter Safety Class  
Click here to enroll in the online Boat Arizona, Boater Safety Class  
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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:18 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 3:01 PM  
**To:** Brian Pryor  
**Subject:** RE: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

Not at this time, only of us doing site work.

We have seen the jaguar photos and video, and they are extraordinary.

We are continuing to work with the hunter to release the images.

---

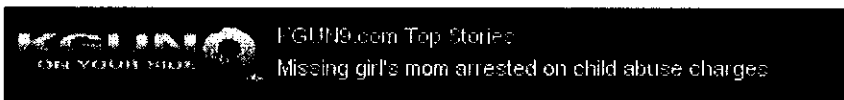
**From:** Brian Pryor [mailto:bpryor@kgun9.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 3:00 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

Hey Mark,

Any pics or video available of this Jaguar?

### Brian W Pryor

Assignment Editor / Web Producer  
KGUN9-TV (ABC) - Ch9 | KWBA-TV (CW) - Ch58  
✉: 7280 E. Rosewood St. | Tucson, AZ | 85710  
☎: 520-290-7697 | News Desk: 520-290-7700  
✉: [bpryor@kgun9.com](mailto:bpryor@kgun9.com)  
🐦: twitter: [@kgun9](https://twitter.com/kgun9)



---

**From:** John Glenn  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:53 PM  
**To:** KGUN - Producers  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart [mailto:MHart@azgfd.gov]  
**Posted At:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:23 PM  
**Posted To:** Kgun9news  
**Conversation:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona  
**Subject:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:19 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:44 PM  
**To:** Leasa Conze  
**Subject:** RE: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

The reporting party continues to decline requests for photos and video. We have seen both, and they are extraordinary.

**From:** Leasa Conze [mailto:LConze@KVOA.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:29 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

How exciting!!! Any pictures to share?

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart [mailto:MHart@azgfd.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:23 PM  
**To:** Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Wildcat; Arizona News Radio; Arizona Public Media; Associated Press; Aztec Press; Daily Territorial; Desert Lightning News ; KGUN-TV; KGUN-TV; KMSB-TV; KMSB-TV; KNST-AM; KOLD-TV; KOLD-TV; KUAT; KUAT; Sam Salzwedel; NewsTips Distribution List; Keith Bembenek; KVOI-AM; KXCH-FM; Lee Allen; Tucson Citizen; Tucson Weekly; Tucson Weekly; Benson/San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Benson/San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KGVY-AM; KKYZ-FM; KOHN-FM; KTAN-AM & K101/KWCD-FM; KTAN-AM & KZMK-FM; Nogales International; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald/Bisbee Daily Review; Sierra Vista Herald; Tombstone Epitaph; Tombstone News; Tombstone Tumbleweed; Tubac Villager; Tubac Villager; Douglas Dispatch; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Ghost Town Trail News ; KATO-AM/KXKQ-FM; KHIL-AM & KWCX-FM; Willcox Range News; Willcox Range News; Arizona City Independent; Arizona Jackpot; Casa Grande Dispatch; Eloy Enterprise; Explorer News; Explorer News; Florence Reminder & Blade Tribune; KCDX-FM; KCMT-FM; KPYT-FM; KWXL-FM; Marana Weekly News; Pinal Ways; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Tan Valley Today; Southern Arizona Wildlife Callers  
**Subject:** News Release: Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona



**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**Contact:**  
Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

### NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

### Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

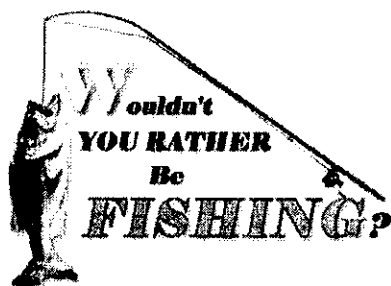
TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt; Brad Fulk; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

Please consider the Public Records implications of daisy-chaining external email with internal email.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 1:13 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt; Brad Fulk; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

All: I too have received a phone and e-mail request from USFWS regarding the sharing of information with the UA group (see below), which leads to my question regarding dissemination of the hairs collected from the current jaguar sighting.

The reason I am bringing this to your attention is that we are or will be conducting a DNA analysis of the hairs that were collected this weekend. As I discussed with Eric, I would like to send the hairs to Melanie Culver at the UA for analysis. I see multiple advantages to using the UA lab: 1) this is the lab that has participated in JAG Conservation Team efforts, 2) they are identified by the current USFWS Jaguar Recovery Team for genetics testing, and 3) it provides us (the Department) with a means for collaborating with the group that was awarded the jaguar monitoring project for the borderlands area. Further, it is my understanding that we will need to notify USFWS before sending the hair (wherever we send it) as directed by our Federal Permit. It makes sense to use the lab that they will be using.

I know that we have had discussions during the Ocelot Response Team, I believe it is in our best interests to collaborate with this group so that we can identify new areas to focus efforts, assist with our Conservation Team efforts, and remain connected with that group.

Any thoughts or concerns with moving in this direction before I respond to the request?

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow

2/2/2012

Region V Nongame Specialist  
 555 N. Greasewood Road  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 (520) 388-4449



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---

**From:** Susan\_Sferra@fws.gov [mailto:Susan\_Sferra@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:46 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Cc:** Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; scott\_richardson@fws.gov; Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov; Marit\_Alanen@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Follow-up monitoring for the jaguar location? Fw: Notification of a confirmed jaguar sighting - Action Possibly Required

Hi Tim,  
 great news about the jaguar sighting. I am following up my phone message with this email.

U of A (Melanie Culver's group) was recently awarded the DHS-funded border mitigation jaguar contract with USFWS. We have funding for them to conduct follow-up intensive jaguar monitoring on any jaguars detected in AZ or NM (with cameras, use of scat dogs, etc.). Let me know what you think about AGFD and U of A collaborating on follow-up monitoring on this new sighting (we also have a call in to Eric Gardner). We are hoping to receive the U of A draft study plan for the jaguar survey and monitoring project this week.

Note that I am now in Tucson and my contact info is below.

Susan Sferra  
 susan\_sferra@fws.gov  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 201 N Bonita Ave., Suite 141, Tucson AZ 85745  
 office: (520) 670-6150 ext 230

---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:11 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

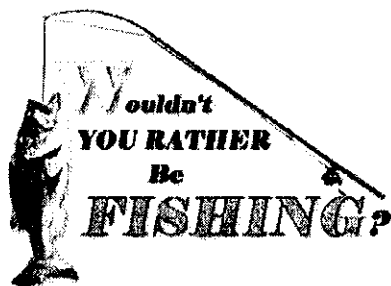
Jean Calhoun just called me to ask if USFWS could get access to AGFD records, given the Whetstones sighting, so they could share them with the UofA contractors (Melanie Culver, Jack Childs, Ron Thompson, etc.). I referred her to Eric Gardner as AGFD's lead jaguar contact. She said she had already called him this morning and asked about Bill Van Pelt's role. I again referred her to Eric.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email teebeej@azgfd.gov

2/2/2012



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**From:** Terry Johnson

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:39 AM

**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller

**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

A few comments embedded. My comment re-southeast vs. south is to imply that this jaguar is not in the area roamed by Macho B. Any better "compass-pointing" that gets that point across (e.g. ESE, SSE, whatever) is more advisable than simple "south," in my opinion. Heck, I would go so far as to say "more than 40 miles southeast" and emphasize "remote rugged area" (or something like that) to be informative yet reasonably vague, with the bonus of advising concerned citizens in Tucson that that will NOT be seeing jaguars in their backyards tonight.

I do like the fact that no reference is made to Macho B. Life does in fact move on.

Thanks, Lynda, for including me in the loop.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

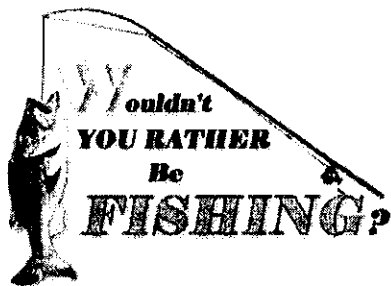
Consultant for Policy Advisement

\*\*\*\*\*

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)

\*\*\*\*\*



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**From:** Lynda Lambert

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:00 AM

**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller

**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

2/2/2012

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Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

Arizona Game and Fish Department

T: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

llambert@azgfd.gov

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**Contact**

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer

**Arizona Game and Fish Department****NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release, Nov. 30, 2011

**Prevalence of jaguars in Arizona**

*How endangered species sighting reports are classified*

PHOENIX, Ariz. – Have you seen a jaguar in southern Arizona? To distinguish these possible sightings from young mountain lions, bobcats or even a large housecat, the Arizona Game and Fish Department uses a three-tiered classification system to rank reported sightings from the public based on the level of physical evidence available.

Often a confirmed sighting of a rare species, like the recent observation of a male jaguar by a mountain lion hunter, will generate an increase in public reports.

"The public's involvement with wildlife and their willingness to contact the department is very valuable," says Gary Hovatter, deputy director of the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "The outcome of the vast majority of these reports demonstrates that rare species truly are rare, but every public report represents an opportunity for the department to potentially learn more about the state's wildlife and Arizonans interest in it."

Game and Fish receives as many as 60-80 jaguar and ocelot sighting reports from the public per year in southern Arizona. In all but rare cases, the department's policy is to follow-up and investigate these reports.

Wildlife managers visit the location of the possible sighting and attempt to recover tracks, scat, hair, scrapes and any other evidence that would help lead to a definitive identification of the reported animal.

The presence of physical evidence such as scat, hair or photos and video can lead to a classification of "verifiable" or "highly probable." In the most recent instance of a jaguar sighting report from a member of the public, high-quality photos and video evidence were available and helped biologists arrive at this classification. In addition, the department collected hair samples that they will attempt to use for a DNA analysis, which will further confirm the sighting as a jaguar.

A second-tier classification is one that lacks physical evidence, but is considered "probable" or "possible" because the sighting was made by an experienced or reliable observer that usually has wildlife or field experience. In June, a Border Patrol pilot on routine patrol sighted a large copper-colored cat with spots and a long tail in forested mountains north of the Mexican border. The pilot was not able to provide physical evidence and a field investigation by the department did not yield any evidence. Therefore, the sighting was considered "probable," but not confirmed, as the pilot has extensive field experience and was able to make several passes over the animal to view it at different angles.

Game and Fish encourages the public to report sightings of what they believe to be an ocelot or jaguar by calling the Operation Game Thief hotline at (800) 352-0700. Reports will be

followed up with site visits by officers and biologists, so people should take care to provide location details (GPS or map) and not disturb any of the area around the site.

-30-

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes they have been discriminated against in any Game and Fish program or activity, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the Game and Fish Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phx., AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the Game and Fish Deputy Director as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800 367-8939.

**Bill Vanpelt**

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**From:** Bill Vanpelt**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 1:44 PM**To:** 'Jennifer\_Smith-Castro@fws.gov'; Mitch\_Sternberg@fws.gov; Arturo Caso; Carlos Lopez Gonzalez; Melanie Culver; jacruz@conanp.gob.mx; Jody Mays; kkaem@earthlink.net; linda.laack@co.travis.tx.us; Michael Tewes; Paul Beier; Tim\_Anderson@fws.gov**Subject:** Another spotted cat in the US

Hello all,

Just wanted to share the latest from AZ.

### **Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider them to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for

nearly two years.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
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623-236-7573 Office  
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Do not forget to buy your hunting and fishing license go to [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov).

**Michelle Black**

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**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:25 PM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Cc:** John Bullington; Leonard Ordway; Sharen Adams; Raul Vega  
**Subject:** Final jaguar news release  
**Attachments:** 111121\_Jaguar\_report\_confirmed\_nr.doc

Hi,

Here's the final news release.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

Arizona Game and Fish Department

T: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

[llambert@azgfd.gov](mailto:llambert@azgfd.gov)

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**Contact**

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

**Arizona Game and Fish Department****NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

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The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider them to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of



females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

-30-

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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:14 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon; Gary R. Hovatter; Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller; Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

All -- The events, as stated in the summary, are correct: RP said he first realized they were trailing a jaguar when he saw it treed from approximately 200 yards. He confirmed it as a jaguar using the zoom lens on one of his cameras. Before the RP could call off the dogs, the jaguar left the tree and headed roughly northeast from a ridgeline on a downhill slope where it was again treed in a mesquite by the dogs after a roughly two mile chase. During the course of the chase the jaguar could be heard roaring and hissing at the dogs, the RP said. Upon arriving near the tree, the RP staked seven of the dogs some distance away, staking one near the tree for safety reasons to keep the jaguar at bay while he gathered the other dogs. All eight dogs sustained injury during the chase, but none required veterinary treatment.

At this time, there is no reason to believe that the events occurred differently than described. Other than spot-pattern analysis and DNA testing of the hairs that were collected, we are not pursuing any other investigation into the account.

-- Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:55 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon; Gary R. Hovatter; Tim Snow; Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Larry,

I agree with you. The challenge any hunter has when retrieving their dogs is the time it takes, especially since this hunter had 8 of them. From my understanding the double treeing occurred in the process of gathering his dogs.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:09 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval  
**Attachments:** 111121\_Jaguar\_report\_confirmed\_nr (3) esg.doc

Jim and I have set up a temporary bivouac (sp?) at a Starbucks in Albuquerque. I was editing the last version from Bill and then attempted to insert Gary's additions. Not promising my version (attached) contains all of what is currently out there for I&E to massage. Sorry to add to the mix...

I am mostly good with what we have at this stage, but inserted a couple of questions for consideration.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Here is my take on the release . . . , but I can be pushed off of this by a good argument -- GRH

### **Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department this weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for DNA testing, if the samples provide adequate DNA material.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probably, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. by an experienced lion hunter. The hunter's dogs picked up the trail of what he believed to be a mountain lion and treed the animal approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree. Once he was able to see the animal it became clear to him that it was not a mountain lion or bobcat. The cat's low position allowed the hunter to confirm his belief that what he was seeing was, in fact, a jaguar. He obtained multiple photographs from various angles and approximately 15 minutes of video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists and the hunter believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition at approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists will compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.



#### Contact

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

## Arizona Game and Fish Department

### NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

#### Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department this weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar south of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for DNA testing, if the samples provide adequate DNA material.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probably, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. by an experienced lion hunter. The hunter's dogs picked up the trail of what he believed to be a mountain lion and treed the animal approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree. Once he was able to see the animal it became clear to him that it was not a mountain lion or bobcat. The cat's low position allowed the hunter to confirm his belief that what he was seeing was, in fact, a jaguar. He obtained multiple photographs from various angles and approximately 15 minutes of video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. by an experienced lion hunter. The hunter's dogs picked up the jaguar's trail and treed the animal approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree. The cat's low position allowed the hunter to obtain multiple photographs from various angles and approximately 15 minutes of video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south. The Department commends the hunter of being aware of the rules regarding jaguars and following the directions identified by the Arizona Game and fish Department in their hunting regulations.

Based on the images, biologists and the hunter believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition at approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists will compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

**Comment [E1]:** Does the region (Investigating officer) support this? If so, I am good with it. Maybe change it to say something like, It appears that the hunter was aware of guidance provided by AGFD regarding direction for lion hunters who encounter a jaguar and took appropriate action.

We have to remember that, ultimately, the FWS has the authority to investigate and, although we believe the hunter acted appropriately, it is not 100% our call to make. Need some hedge words about it appearing as is the hunter responded appropriately...

**Comment [E2]:** Saw previous email discussion about not wanting to confuse the issue about us having photos or not. Question is, can we truly say this now? What if we do not get pictures? I guess we will soon, even if it is subsequent to a public release (or commercial) from the hunter).

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico, and that young males come into Arizona as they establish their own territory. As noted by the USFWS in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report goes on to observe that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the United State may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

**Comment [E3]:** Should we delete "young" if we delete "as they establish their territory"? Made sense before, young cat comes in and sets up shop - and may then grow old. Makes sense as is, but not as clean. An older cat could come into a vacant area and establish a territory too.

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

-30-

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**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 12:07 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley; Bill Vanpelt; Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon; Tim Snow; Mark A. Hart; Aaron Miller; Eric Gardner; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** Jag Release

Jaguar release: Given some of the sensitivities expressed by the Region and a Commissioner, I would offer one further tweak of the third paragraph:

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs began pursuing an animal the hunter ultimately judged to be a jaguar. The animal was treed and the hunter took photos before leaving the area with his dogs and observing the animal from a distance. After about 15 minutes the jaguar climbed down from the tree and departed the area.

--Gary/GF2

**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** News release

**Importance:** High

Please allow us one final read of the final draft to ensure accuracy. Changes are coming too fast at this point to track and we have some concerns.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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[Click here for the Tucson office Twitter page](#)

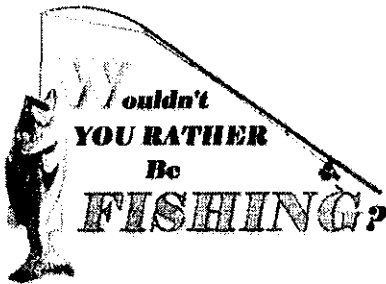
**Michelle Black**

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:34 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

No push back from me.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
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## Michelle Black

---

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**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
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---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:39 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Lynda – I'm not sure how to change it without being too wordy. Macho B was first observed in 1996 by a hunter. He was subsequently photographed multiple times over the course of the next 13 years, by the same hunter but not while hunting. I would say that 4 of the last 5 confirmed jaguar sightings collaborated with physical evidence were initiated by lion hunters.

Good luck,

Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:10 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Did not know that little fact! How about this....

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and remove their dogs from the area once the animal was determined to be a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

If you agree, I'll share the change with the others at the top of the food chain.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:25 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Here are my comments. I added something in light of Tim's comment.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
[bvanpelt@azgfd.gov](mailto:bvanpelt@azgfd.gov)  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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---

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:00 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Hi,

Attached is a draft news release on the jaguar sighting this weekend for your review and comment. Please provide me with your input as soon as possible, as we plan to get this distributed to media this morning.

Note that in keeping with department precedent, we will not refer to the location of the animal any more specifically than to classify it as "south of Tucson" due to the species endangered listing.

Regards,  
*Lynda Lambert*  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
T: 623.236.7203  
C: 602.531.2393

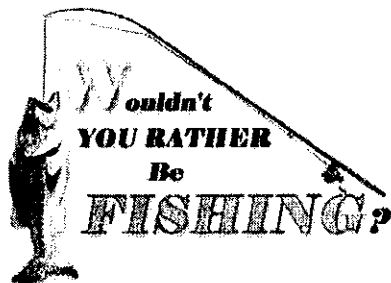
## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:14 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Also, Sparky just called to ask if the Jaguar sighting was somehow linked the UofA thumping ASWho in football. I referred him to Gerry Perry.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:39 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

A few comments embedded. My comment re-southeast vs. south is to imply that this jaguar is not in the area roamed by Macho B. Any better "compass-pointing" that gets that point across (e.g. ESE, SSE, whatever) is more advisable than simple "south," in my opinion. Heck, I would go so far as to say "more than 40 miles southeast" and emphasize "remote rugged area" (or something like that) to be informative yet reasonably vague, with the bonus of advising concerned citizens in Tucson that that will NOT be seeing jaguars in their backyards tonight.

I do like the fact that no reference is made to Macho B. Life does in fact move on.

Thanks, Lynda, for including me in the loop.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
\*\*\*\*\*

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:10 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Did not know that little fact! How about this....

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and remove their dogs from the area once the animal was determined to be a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

If you agree, I'll share the change with the others at the top of the food chain.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer  
P: 623.236.7203  
C: 602.531.2393  
F: 623.236.7903

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Lynda – I used track changes for one little edit; apply as you see fit.

Also, I feel it is important to note that 4 of the last 5 confirmed jaguars in Arizona were initiated by lion hunters. In all cases, the hunters did the responsible thing by documenting, reporting, and breaking off their pursuit once the cats were determined to be jaguars. Except for the camera project, we may have never learned or obtained physical evidence without these hunters. It would be nice to see the positive side of hunters' efforts more strongly conveyed than just reporting that a "hunter reported".

Thanks,

Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
(520) 388-4449



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---

**From:** Lynda Lambert

**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:00 AM

**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller

**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Hi,

Attached is a draft news release on the jaguar sighting this weekend for your review and comment. Please provide me with your input as soon as possible, as we plan to get this distributed to media this morning.

Note that in keeping with department precedent, we will not refer to the location of the animal any more specifically than to classify it as "south of Tucson" due to the species endangered listing.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

Arizona Game and Fish Department

T: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

[llambert@azgfd.gov](mailto:llambert@azgfd.gov)

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## Michelle Black

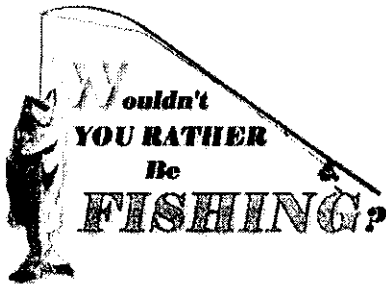
---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:44 AM  
**To:** Tim Snow; Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

I completely agree with Tim's point about emphasizing the lion hunter role.

I disagree with the text change he suggested. For me, the suggested change just raises questions about why we are only hopeful. That line of discussion will lead to questions about why we don't already have the photos, etc. Which will lead to comments about "greedy self-serving hunters." So, I favor the original text, which is positive and which I fully believe will be realized before too long. But, that's just one person's opinion.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

---

**From:** Tim Snow  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:38 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Lynda – I used track changes for one little edit; apply as you see fit.

Also, I feel it is important to note that 4 of the last 5 confirmed jaguars in Arizona were initiated by lion hunters. In all cases, the hunters did the responsible thing by documenting, reporting, and breaking off their pursuit once the cats were determined to be jaguars. Except for the camera project, we may have never learned or obtained physical evidence without these hunters. It would be nice to see the positive side of hunters' efforts more strongly conveyed than just reporting that a "hunter reported".

Thanks,

Tim

Tim K. Snow  
Region V Nongame Specialist

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 10:42 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Aaron Miller; Brad Fulk  
**Subject:** Re: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

**Importance:** High

Aaron questions referencing comparisons based on photos and video we do not have in hand.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

---

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 09:59 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Hi,

Attached is a draft news release on the jaguar sighting this weekend for your review and comment. Please provide me with your input as soon as possible, as we plan to get this distributed to media this morning.

Note that in keeping with department precedent, we will not refer to the location of the animal any more specifically than to classify it as "south of Tucson" due to the species endangered listing.

Regards,  
*Lynda Lambert*  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
T: 623.236.7203  
C: 602.531.2393  
F: 623.236.7903  
[llambert@azgfd.gov](mailto:llambert@azgfd.gov)

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**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 5:32 PM  
**To:** 'Jeff\_Humphrey@fws.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

---

**From:** Department News  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:37 PM  
**To:** ALL @ External; ALL @ Flagstaff; ALL @ Kingman; ALL @ Mesa; All @ Phoenix; ALL @ Pinetop; ALL @ Tucson; ALL @ Yuma  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

The department issued the following news release today to media. Media inquiries should be referred to Lynda Lambert (x7203) or Mark Hart (x4445).

### **Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider them to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:47 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Sharen Adams; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** RE: News release  
**Attachments:** 111121\_Jaguar\_report\_confirmed\_nr.doc

Mark,

Here is the "final" that Gary H. signed off on and asked me to release ASAP. Please advise if you have substantive changes, which will then have to go back through the Director's Office.

Regards,

*Lynda Lambert*

Public Information Officer

P: 623.236.7203

C: 602.531.2393

F: 623.236.7903

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Cc:** Brad Fulk; Tim Snow; Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** News release  
**Importance:** High

Please allow us one final read of the final draft to ensure accuracy. Changes are coming too fast at this point to track and we have some concerns.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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[Click here for the Tucson office Facebook page](#)  
[Click here for the Tucson office Twitter page](#)

**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:37 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval  
**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

No push from me. Would suggest that we received the report from an experienced lion hunter; not by a lion hunter.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\*\*\*

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:27 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Here is my take on the release . . . , but I can be pushed off of this by a good argument -- GRH

### **Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department this weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for DNA testing, if the samples provide adequate DNA material.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probably, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. ~~by~~ from an experienced lion hunter. The hunter's dogs picked up the trail of what he believed to be a mountain lion and treed the animal approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree. Once he was able to see the animal it became clear to him that it was not a mountain lion or bobcat. The cat's low position allowed the hunter to confirm his belief that what he was seeing was, in fact, a jaguar. He obtained multiple photographs from various angles and approximately 15 minutes of video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists and the hunter believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition at approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists will compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the USFWS in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging

## Larry Riley

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:34 AM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Bill,

Didn't see anything inserted. There was no attachment.

Lawrence M. Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

623-236-7302  
[lriley@azgfd.gov](mailto:lriley@azgfd.gov)

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---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:25 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Terry Johnson; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report news release -- for your approval

Here are my comments. I added something in light of Tim's comment.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
[bvanpelt@azgfd.gov](mailto:bvanpelt@azgfd.gov)  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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<http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/subscribe.shtml>

**Larry Riley**

---

**From:** Larry Riley  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:23 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Voyles; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

**Attachments:** Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf

Thanks Terry. Eric is in Albuquerque today meeting with FWS (on a separate subject). I'm confident that he'll get back with Jean ASAP. I don't see that there should be any sensitivity in releasing detailed information to Ecological Services. If they are looking for specific coordinates, I do not have that information as yet. Eric might be able to garner that, if it is appropriate to release to others beyond Mr. Spangle.-

Lawrence M. Riley  
 Assistant Director  
 Wildlife Management Division  
 Arizona Game and Fish Department  
 5000 W. Carefree Highway  
 Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

623-236-7302  
[Lriley@azgfd.gov](mailto:Lriley@azgfd.gov)

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---

**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 11:11 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Jim Paxson; Tom Cadden; Ron Day; Brian Wakeling; Bill Vanpelt; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Brad Fulk; Aaron Miller  
**Subject:** Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

Jean Calhoun just called me to ask if USFWS could get access to AGFD records, given the Whetstones sighting, so they could share them with the UofA contractors (Melanie Culver, Jack Childs, Ron Thompson, etc.). I referred her to Eric Gardner as AGFD's lead jaguar contact. She said she had already called him this morning and asked about Bill Van Pelt's role. I again referred her to Eric.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
 Consultant for Policy Advisement  
 \*\*\*\*\*  
 Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
 Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 3:52 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Gary R. Hovatter; Ty Gray  
**Subject:** FW: jaguar footage

Mark Hart has been the lead on getting photos and permission to use them. We do have photos taken of the projections of 3 photos onto a screen during the press conference, but they are watermarked and certainly not as clear as the originals. I think Mark will be able to provide the better photos. If not, I can provide the watermarked ones.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Gary Schafer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 2:06 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** FW: jaguar footage

See below – looking for jaguar video / pictures for our 2011 Year in Review video

---

**From:** Ty Gray  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 2:00 PM  
**To:** Gary Schafer  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** RE: jaguar footage

I don't know for sure. Eric Gardner and/or Tim Snow would probably be your best bet to find out. Thx. t

---

**From:** Gary Schafer  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 04, 2012 1:59 PM  
**To:** Ty Gray  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden

2/2/2012

**Subject:** jaguar footage

Do we have the photos and video from the jaguar sighting this year and if so do we have the hunter's permission to use it? There is a short paragraph about it in the 2011 Year In Review video.

Gary Schafer  
Producer

***AZ Wildlife Views***

5000 W. Carefree Hwy  
Phoenix, AZ 85086  
623.236.7232 (office)  
623.570.4368 (cell)

2/2/2012

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:17 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Fwd: [Letters] Latest jaguar sighting

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 6:52 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Fwd: Fwd: [Letters] Latest jaguar sighting

FYI, when asked about this said was incidental take.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Tony Davis [<mailto:verdin@azstarnet.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 04:37 PM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** Fwd: [Letters] Latest jaguar sighting

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Jill Jorden Spitz <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** November 21, 2011 4:37:38 PM MST  
**To:** tdavis  
**Subject:** Fwd: [Letters] Latest jaguar sighting

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Albert Vetere Lannon" <[REDACTED]>  
**Date:** November 21, 2011 4:27:25 PM MST  
**To:** "LetterstoEditor AZDailyStar" <[letters@azstarnet.com](mailto:letters@azstarnet.com)>  
**Subject:** [Letters] Latest jaguar sighting  
**Reply-To:** [letters@azstarnet.com](mailto:letters@azstarnet.com)

Let's hope that Arizona Fish and Game officials do not repeat their ill-fated zealousness to capture and radio-collar a jaguar that led to them killing Macho B, who had lived peacefully in our state for years. While they managed to skate through the investigation with a contractor taking the blame for baiting and snaring our resident jaguar, and a volunteer indicted for simply doing what she was told to do, the drive to capture and radio-collar Macho B came from high Fish and Game management personnel. I watched them and heard them at Jaguar Conservation Team meetings. Let's just leave our jaguars alone and take joy in knowing that they are there. And maybe preserve some habitat to make them welcome where they used to live! Here kitty kitty!

Albert Vetere Lannon  
retired, Picture Rocks



Wild Heart Ranch  
13141 W. Camino de Conejo  
Tucson, AZ 85743  
(520) 622-3561

## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** email@addthis.com on behalf of mhart@azgfd.gov  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 2:47 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RAW VIDEO: Hunter shows pictures of jaguar found near Tucson | KVOA.com | Tucson, Arizona

FYI

<http://www.kvoa.com/news/raw-video-hunter-shows-pictures-of-jaguar-found-near-tucson/#.TtQBxUo2Xg.email>

---

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**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter

**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 8:17 AM

**To:** Bob Broscheid; Brad Fulk; Brian Wakeling; Eric Gardner; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxson; Jorge Canaca; Larry Riley; Leonard Ordway; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Terry Johnson; Tim Snow; Tom Cadden; Tony Guiles; Ty Gray; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Cc:** Larry Voyles; John Bullington; Lizette Morgan

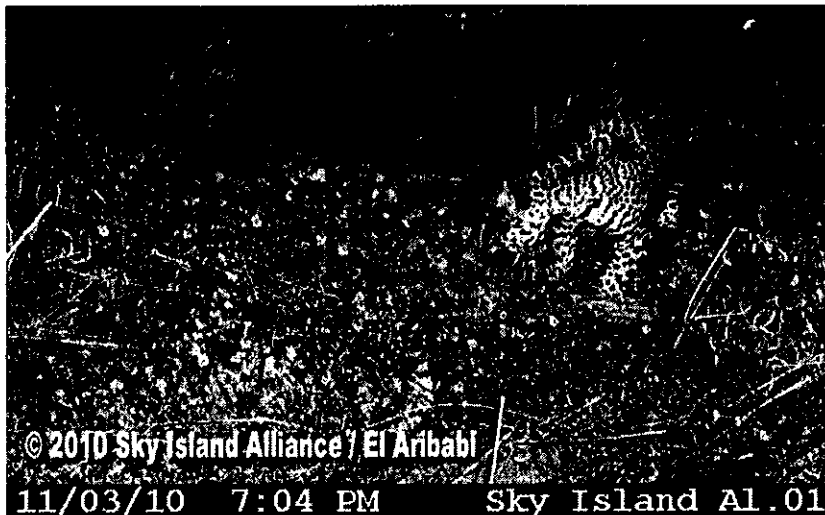
**Subject:** Emailing: In Arizona, Rare Sightings Of Ocelots and Jaguars - NYTimes.com.htm

Forwarded FYI . . . something of a nice touch that there is a link to the ,  
link to Mr. Fenn's lion hunting service

--Gary/GF2

## The New York Times

### In Southern Arizona, Rare Sightings of Ocelots and Jaguar



Sky Island Alliance, via Associated Press

A jaguar along an isolated canyon in Sonora State in Mexico. A jaguar sighting was recently cc

By MARC LACEY

Published: December 4, 2011

PHOENIX — The Serengeti is associated with safaris. The Maasai Mara, too. But southern .

A series of recent sightings of rare wild cats in the southern part of the state has prompted ,  
and camera-toting naturalists alike. Twice this year, the Arizona Game and Fish Department  
endangered ocelots, small spotted cats with jaguarlike markings.

A third ocelot sighting reported on Friday by a homeowner who snapped some blurry photo  
African cat popular in the pet trade, state officials said Saturday. The animal had long ears,  
instead of the solid spots and haloed spots on an ocelot.

On Nov. 19, it was a rare jaguar that was seen in the same part of the state — the first confir  
cat in Arizona since 2009. The jaguar is the third-largest feline after the tiger and the lion, ;  
Hemisphere.

Donnie Fenn, a professional guide based in Benson, Ariz., who specializes in mountain lion

was taking his 10-year-old daughter out on her first lion hunt that morning when his pack of eight hounds took off in a frenzy. Before he knew it, he said, the dogs had a creature cornered in a tree, which he saw from afar with a telephoto lens was not the mountain lion he was looking for but instead an endangered jaguar.

"I was scared," Mr. Fenn said in a telephone interview on Friday. "I didn't know if that thing was going to turn on me. I could feel its power. It was twice the size of a big mountain lion. It was definitely the experience of a lifetime."

Mr. Fenn said that his dogs were scratched pretty badly by the cornered jaguar, who probably had roamed north from Mexico.

In June, a helicopter pilot working along the border for the federal Department of Homeland Security reported seeing a jaguar in the Santa Rita Mountains south of Tucson, officials said. Because the pilot had previously seen mountain lions, which are sometimes confused by the non-experts with jaguars, and was able to hover about 100 feet above the spotted cat and clearly describe it, wildlife experts took the report seriously. But biologists who went to the scene about a week after the spotting could not find tracks, hair or droppings from the animal, making it an unconfirmed sighting.

Mr. Fenn, 32, made sure to confirm his run-in with the jaguar, which took place in an undisclosed mountain range in Cochise County. He crept up close after the jaguar was chased up a mesquite tree and took photos and a video of the animal. He also notified state wildlife officials, who were later able to find 15 hair samples left behind by the animal and a tree trunk that showed signs of being climbed by a large clawed animal. Experts believe Mr. Fenn saw an adult male jaguar that weighed about 200 pounds.

"What's so appealing to the general public is that jaguars are so exotic," said Mark Hart, a spokesman for the Arizona Game and Fish Department. "They are jungle cats from Central and South America, and the fact that they might be in our state really gets people's attention. It's a romantic notion."

Mr. Fenn, whose Chasin' Tail Guide Service offers five-day mountain lion hunts for \$3,500, said his Web site has been barraged with hits since the jaguar sighting. And his daughter Alyson, initially disappointed that she did not get her first mountain lion kill that day, now realizes that seeing a jaguar was memorable, too.

"It was quite an experience, even if she didn't get to kill anything," Mr. Fenn said.

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:24 PM  
**To:** 'Eric and Kim'  
**Subject:** FW: Articles on recent jaguar sighting in AZ

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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<http://www.azgfd.gov/eservices/subscribe.shtml>

**From:** Bergman, David L - APHIS [mailto:David.L.Bergman@aphis.usda.gov]

**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 11:18 AM

**Subject:** Articles on recent jaguar sighting in AZ

<http://www.publicnewsservice.org/index.php?/content/article/23534-2>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/11/21/us-arizona-jaguar-idUSTRE7AK2OG20111121>

[http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press\\_releases/2011/jaguar-11-21-2011.html](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/news/press_releases/2011/jaguar-11-21-2011.html)

[http://azstarnet.com/news/local/extremely-rare-jaguar-seen-southeast-of-tucson/article\\_5abe65ec-1489-11e1-9853-001cc4c002e0.html](http://azstarnet.com/news/local/extremely-rare-jaguar-seen-southeast-of-tucson/article_5abe65ec-1489-11e1-9853-001cc4c002e0.html)

<http://azgfd.net/artman/publish/NewsMedia/Game-and-Fish-confirms-report-of-jaguar-in-southern-Arizona.shtml>

[http://azstarnet.com/news/local/jaguar-seen-in-area-of-cochise/article\\_c41a3138-c50e-5bdc-a5d0-c26d5ff503bb.html](http://azstarnet.com/news/local/jaguar-seen-in-area-of-cochise/article_c41a3138-c50e-5bdc-a5d0-c26d5ff503bb.html)

<http://www.examiner.com/nature-in-phoenix/southern-arizona-jaguar-sighting-confirmed-by-arizona-game-and-fish-department>

<http://www.defendersblog.org/2011/11/rare-jaguar-spotted-in-arizona/>

<http://www.kold.com/story/16105458/game-and-fish-releases-photos-of-jaguar>

<http://www.care2.com/greenliving/jaguar-spotted-in-arizona.html>

<http://www.eacourier.com/articles/2011/11/23/news/doc4ecc43bb6b5d3165043060.txt>

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/pinal/articles/2011/11/22/20111122arizona-jaguar-sighting-confirmed-officials-say.html>

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/nationnow/2011/11/jaguar-spotted-southern-arizona-macho-b.html>

<http://www.newser.com/story/134001/wild-jaguar-spotted-in-arizona.html>

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/opinions/articles/2011/11/24/20111124hep-cat-seeks-not-cougar-jaguar.html>

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/opinions/articles/2011/11/23/20111123respect-both-hunted-hunters.html>

## Bill Vanpelt

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:05 AM  
**To:** 'David.L.Bergman@aphis.usda.gov'  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting update

Just received word the hunter wants to hold a news conference.

Raul

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:19 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference  
**Importance:** High

Interesting. There are distinct pros and cons to our facilitating the RP's request.

From my perspective, the pros of our helping make this happen include:

- Putting the Department on the public's screens as being actively involved in jaguar conservation . . . the beginning of coming out of the defensive stance we've had to take for more than 2 years
- Precludes him being potentially hijacked by other individuals or groups who might want to use him to promote agenda's the RP might later find abhorrent

The cons would include:

- Our taking some ownership (as the facilitator) of the totality of the RP's agenda(s) and perspectives . . . about this event and anything else that may come up during a press conference. There have been press events I've participated in where reporters came up to me afterwards and asked me: "Did you know he was going to say that?"
- Our being held accountable by the RP should the press conference not go as he expects/hopes . . . in my previous life I used to remind folks who wanted to talk to the media that the press is not going to tell their story. When the media bring in the other voices necessary to bring balance into the story, these folks are often disappointed in the result.

In my experience, the risks were minimized when I had the time to "war game" the press conference in advance with the interviewee . . . it helped them understand what a press conference is, better metered their expectations, and often flushed out (in advance) attitudes and thoughts that might otherwise have caught me by surprise. I highly recommend this technique.

Others in this loop will have their own lists and may have a compelling case to make on either side of the decision.

**BOTTOM LINE:** I look forward to Region V and Information Branch's recommendation. I will not be opposed to a well thought out recommendation that we say "yes" to the RP's request.

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:56 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Possible jaguar press conference

FYI -- I just received a call from Mark Hart and apparently Mr. Fenn called him this morning and expressed an interest in talking to the media via a press conference. Mark is on his way to Mr. Fenn's house to discuss the options and will provide more info after the meeting.

Lynda





**Bill Vanpelt**

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:08 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** Re: Possible jaguar press conference

Hello,

Here is my perspective:

If a conference is held, a Department person familiar with ES issues, jaguar conservation, and some history about Macho B be with the RP. My fear is the RP could answer a question that may make it appear there was a possible take violation. Although from what I have heard and seen, I do not believe there was one. Someone needs to be familiar with the final rule. Also, they need to recognize when to step in and answer the question even if it was not asked of them.

I think this could be positive because it would show the public we are still very much in to jaguar conservation. With the reporting of the sighting, those procedures established by the Jaguar Conservation Team do work. My recommendation would be to at least have Tim Snow present for ES and jaguar conservation questions.

Bill  
 Bill

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 09:18 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Interesting. There are distinct pros and cons to our facilitating the RP's request.

From my perspective, the pros of our helping make this happen include:

- Putting the Department on the public's screens as being actively involved in jaguar conservation . . . the beginning of coming out of the defensive stance we've had to take for more than 2 years
- Precludes him being potentially hijacked by other individuals or groups who might want to use him to promote agenda's the RP might later find abhorrent

The cons would include:

- Our taking some ownership (as the facilitator) of the totality of the RP's agenda(s) and perspectives . . . about this event and anything else that may come up during a press conference. There have been press events I've participated in where reporters came up to me afterwards and asked me: "Did you know he was going to say that?"
- Our being held accountable by the RP should the press conference not go as he expects/hopes . . . in my

previous life I used to remind folks who wanted to talk to the media that the press is not going to tell their story. When the media bring in the other voices necessary to bring balance into the story, these folks are often disappointed in the result.

In my experience, the risks were minimized when I had the time to "war game" the press conference in advance with the interviewee . . . it helped them understand what a press conference is, better metered their expectations, and often flushed out (in advance) attitudes and thoughts that might otherwise have caught me by surprise. I highly recommend this technique.

Others in this loop will have their own lists and may have a compelling case to make on either side of the decision.

**BOTTOM LINE:** I look forward to Region V and Information Branch's recommendation. I will not be opposed to a well thought out recommendation that we say "yes" to the RP's request.

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Lynda Lambert

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 8:56 AM

**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow

**Subject:** Possible jaguar press conference

FYI -- I just received a call from Mark Hart and apparently Mr. Fenn called him this morning and expressed an interest in talking to the media via a press conference. Mark is on his way to Mr. Fenn's house to discuss the options and will provide more info after the meeting.

Lynda

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:16 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Possible jaguar press conference  
**Importance:** High

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:28 AM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Raul Vega; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Re: Possible jaguar press conference  
**Importance:** High

2 pm today FO5 conference room.  
Mark Hart, PIO AGFD Tucson

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 08:56 AM  
**To:** Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Possible jaguar press conference

FYI -- I just received a call from Mark Hart and apparently Mr. Fenn called him this morning and expressed an interest in talking to the media via a press conference. Mark is on his way to Mr. Fenn's house to discuss the options and will provide more info after the meeting.

Lynda

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:16 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: Possible jaguar press conference

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:23 PM  
**To:** Sharen Adams  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Still needing written guidance here.

Thanks,

Mark

**From:** Sharen Adams  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:15 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxson; Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

I just got off the phone with Mark, he was meeting with the RP to discuss the potential press conference, tentatively scheduled for 2:00p. I did not get the location from him. I am trying to track down Brad Fulk reference the report of BLM locating large tracks and scat within the San Pedro NRA recently. Despite reports to the contrary Brad only heard about this during last weekend's junior hunt camp and attempted to contact BLM for confirmation. This might be something that could be brought up for clarification during the press conference with confirmation from BLM.

*Sherrrie*

**SHAREN L. ADAMS**

**Field Operations Coordinator**

**Field Operations Division**

**Arizona Game and Fish Department**

**5000 West Carefree Highway**

**Phoenix, Arizona 85086**

**Phone: (623) 236-7292**

**Cell: (480) 276-0976**

**FAX: (623) 236-7945**

**sadams@azgfd.gov**

**From:** Jim Paxon

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 9:51 AM

**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Gary, I too, think the positives outweigh the negatives. It is key that Mark set RP up with some role playing and expectations. I also think that Aaron's presence with Mark as the officer investigating the report and Mark's visit to the site are necessary. Of course, the primary question will be "Can we see/ get copies of the photos and video?". Might also be beneficial to have R-5's large predator Bio there to answer those what if and what does this mean for jaguars in Az. questions. I just got off the phone with Raul and conveyed those thoughts to him. I'll phone Mark shortly. Best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 09:18 AM US Mountain Standard Time

**To:** Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Interesting. There are distinct pros and cons to our facilitating the RP's request.

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- Precludes him being potentially hijacked by other individuals or groups who might want to use him to promote agenda's the RP might later find abhorrent

The cons would include:

- Our taking some ownership (as the facilitator) of the totality of the RP's agenda(s) and perspectives . . . about this event and anything else that may come up during a press conference. There have been press events I've participated in where reporters came up to me afterwards and asked me: "Did you know he was going to say that?"
- Our being held accountable by the RP should the press conference not go as he expects/hopes . . . in my previous life I used to remind folks who wanted to talk to the media that the press is not going to tell their story. When the media bring in the other voices necessary to bring balance into the story, these folks are often disappointed in the result.

In my experience, the risks were minimized when I had the time to "war game" the press conference in advance with the interviewee . . . it helped them understand what a press conference is, better metered their expectations, and often

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 1:20 PM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Raul Vega; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jorge Canaca; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference & BLM large cat evidence

On second thought, I would leave "knowing" out of the response as it may imply to some that an unintentional violation occurred. Good for us to understand and address if it comes up, but otherwise just "do not believe a violation occurred based on existing information"

Eric Gardner  
 Office: 623-236-7507

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:57 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Raul Vega; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jorge Canaca; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference & BLM large cat evidence

Another data point,

I called Ray Suazo, acting BLM director for Arizona, to give him a heads up that BLM may be mentioned at this afternoon's press conference in Tucson in regards to the report of possible jaguar tracks/scat being found on BLM land in southern Arizona. Told him I didn't want him caught by surprise.

While he was aware of the media reports about our RP's encounter, he had not heard anything about tracks/scat on BLM land. It does not surprise me that that sort of thing had not filtered up to the state Director's level.

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:41 PM  
**To:** Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jorge Canaca; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** FW: Possible jaguar press conference & BLM large cat evidence  
**Importance:** High

Terry et al,

- The conference is being pushed back to 2:30 pm. Mark Hart will be the conference facilitator.

2/2/2012

- Subject Matter Experts in the room will include Mark, Brad Fulk, & Eric Gardner.
- **With regard to the report of jaguar tracks & scat on BLM land, here is what appears to be the truth:**
  - Over the weekend, Department staff were told that possible jaguar tracks and scat had been found on BLM land in southern Arizona.
  - It is currently our understanding that BLM sent the scat and photos of the tracks to the UofA for analysis and that the UofA's preliminary assessment is that they are from a large mountain lion.
  - Until genetic analysis of the scat is completed, any further discussion would be pure speculation.
  - We would refer you to the UofA and the BLM should you have further questions about this.
- Legalities:
  - Until or unless I am informed otherwise, my read of Title 17 seems clear: The RP's actions were not a violation of state law and should we be asked if state law was broken, the best answer is probably a simple, emphatic "NO".
  - With regard to Federal law:
    - It seems clear that in order for an act to be either a civil or criminal violation of ESA, the act has to be "knowing".
    - Unless the RP has ESA training, it does not appear he could have been knowingly in violation.
    - THAT SAID: This is the Fed's call.
    - 500 is attempting to contact Steve Spangle to discuss. If Steve indicates that the Feds are not concerned (although that could change), the answer to a question about Federal law might be: "We do not believe Mr. Fenn's actions constitute a knowing violation of ESA, and therefore would not be an illegal act. It is our understanding that the USFWS sees this the same way.
    - If Steve **cannot** give that assurance, an answer might be: "We do not believe Mr. Fenn's actions constitute a knowing violation of ESA, and therefore would not be an illegal act. However, we defer to the USFWS as the final authority on that point."

--Gary/GF2

**From:** Terry Johnson

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:06 PM

**To:** Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

I saw the comments re: 2 pm press conference. I alerted Bill Van Pelt about the event because he seems to be having Blackberry message delivery issues.

The two messages and CBD news release attached illustrate how the current information is being depicted by or disseminated in the outside world. All knowledge is by definition incomplete and subject to incremental clarification and expansion but forewarned is forearmed. No comment on whether that philosophical cow chip is contrary to anyone else's perspective.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

Consultant for Policy Advisement

\*\*\*\*\*

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

Email teebeej@azgfd.gov

\*\*\*\*\*

2/2/2012



**Michelle Black**

---

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 01, 2012 1:16 PM  
**To:** Michelle Black  
**Subject:** FW: News Conference Today With Hunter Who Sighted Jaguar Nov. 19 Rescheduled for 2:30 p.m.

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:47 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** FW: News Conference Today With Hunter Who Sighted Jaguar Nov. 19 Rescheduled for 2:30 p.m.

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:09 PM  
**To:** Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Star; Arizona Daily Wildcat; Arizona News Radio; Arizona Public Media; Associated Press; Aztec Press; Daily Territorial; Desert Lightning News ; KGUN-TV; KGUN-TV; KMSB-TV; KMSB-TV; KNST-AM; KOLD-TV; KOLD-TV; KUAT; KUAT; KVOA-TV; KVOA-TV; KVOA-TV; KVOI-AM; KXCI-FM; Lee Allen; Tucson Citizen; Tucson Weekly; Tucson Weekly; Arizona City Independent; Arizona Jackpot; Casa Grande Dispatch; Eloy Enterprise; Explorer News; Explorer News; Florence Reminder & Blade Tribune; KCDX-FM; KCMT-FM; KPYT-FM; KWXL-FM; Marana Weekly News; Pinal Ways; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Manuel Miner; San Tan Valley Today; Southern Arizona Wildlife Callers; Vail Sun; Benson/San Pedro Valley News-Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; Green Valley News & Sun; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KBRP-FM; KGVY-AM; KKYZ-FM; KOHN-FM; KTAN-AM & K101/KWCD-FM; KTAN-AM & KZMK-FM; Nogales International; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald; Sierra Vista Herald/Bisbee Daily Review; Sierra Vista Herald; Tombstone Epitaph; Tombstone News; Tombstone Tumbleweed; Tubac Villager; Tubac Villager; Douglas Dispatch; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Eastern Arizona Courier/Copper Era; Ghost Town Trail News ; KATO-AM/KXKQ-FM; KHIL-AM & KWCX-FM; Willcox Range News; Willcox Range News  
**Cc:** [tdavis@azstarnet.com](mailto:tdavis@azstarnet.com); Arizona Daily Star ([metro@azstarnet.com](mailto:metro@azstarnet.com)); Rick Wiley  
**Subject:** News Conference Today With Hunter Who Sighted Jaguar Nov. 19 Rescheduled for 2:30 p.m.  
**Importance:** High

**Contact**

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445(o)/(520) 282-

Public Information Officer, AGFD

0978©



**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**NEWS RELEASE**  
For immediate release, Nov. 22, 2011

**News Conference**

**2:30 p.m. Today With Hunter Who Sighted Jaguar Nov. 19**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department will conduct a news conference 2:30 p.m. today with the hunting guide who sighted a jaguar Saturday southeast of Tucson

The news conference, which was originally scheduled for 2 p.m., will be held at the Game and Fish regional office, 555 N. Greasewood Road, Tucson.

-30-

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
[Mhart@azgfd.gov](mailto:Mhart@azgfd.gov)

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[Click here for the Tucson office Twitter page](#)

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 1:36 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar: RE: Possible jaguar press conference

T. J., Thanks for the shoring up my limited exposure and knowledge. Helps. Perhaps tu eres tecolote grande y sabio. Jim

-----Original Message-----

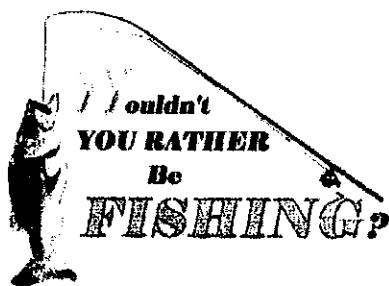
**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:51 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Jaguar: RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Hi!

I have seen nothing from USFWS and assume they will continue to run behind us until they need to take cover elsewhere. How the situation is handled will likely affect how SOME hunters handle sharing in the future. I don't know Mr. Fenn at all so I have no idea where he falls on the hunter credibility and influence spectrum. We could handle him "right" and alienate others or we could handle him "wrong" and generate support. Best we can hope for on most anything of this nature is to break even. Gee, have I become cynical?

As for the attachments, given that they are email messages each of which has its own attachments I would doubt they can be opened on an iPhone or iPad. Good Mail is not all that great!

Thx, Terry B. Johnson  
Consultant for Policy Advisement  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366  
Email teebeej@azgfd.gov  
\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:39 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Terry, Unable to download the second and third news releases. C. B. D.'s was in keeping with what we expect. I am curious if F. W. S. Has said anything about investigating conditions of R. P.'s discovery, photo/videos...Is this something that would/could deter hunters from sharing any information with us in the future? Hmmm, Jim

Sent with Good (www.good.com)

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Terry Johnson

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 12:05 PM US Mountain Standard Time

**To:** Raul Vega; Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

I saw the comments re: 2 pm press conference. I alerted Bill Van Pelt about the event because he seems to be having Blackberry message delivery issues.

The two messages and CBD news release attached illustrate how the current information is being depicted by or disseminated in the outside world. All knowledge is by definition incomplete and subject to incremental clarification and expansion but forewarned is forearmed. No comment on whether that philosophical cow chip is contrary to anyone else's perspective.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

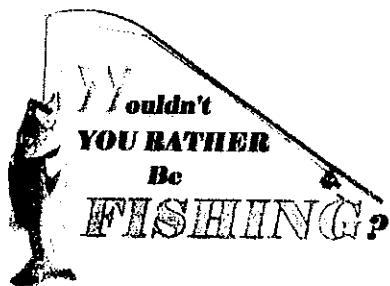
Consultant for Policy Advisement

\*\*\*\*\*

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

Email teebeej@azgfd.gov

\*\*\*\*\*



\*\*\*\*\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

**From:** Raul Vega

**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 10:58 AM

**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Lynda Lambert; Larry Voyles; Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Larry Riley; Sharen Adams; Eric Gardner; Ty Gray; Bill Vanpelt; Terry Johnson

**Cc:** Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Bob Broscheid; Leonard Ordway; Tony Guiles; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock

**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar press conference

Gary,

I agree with you, I spoke with Mark Hart about this and we're being cautious with this request and/or other media request as well. I think over all this jaguar sighting should benefit the Department as long as we continue to provide the most appropriate information that is approved by you all. This should prevent any controversy among the public or other conservation groups.

## **Jim Paxon**

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 2:38 PM  
**To:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** RE: jaguars

Lynda, sounds good. J

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Lynda Lambert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 02:20 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Randy Babb; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: jaguars

FYI -- I'm in the bald eagle court hearing and don't know when it will end. I can work on it after the hearing ends.

Lynda

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 02:03 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** FW: jaguars

Lynda, Randy is going to ask Cara to call you. Bill Van Pelt may be able to assist you. Let me know and best, Jim

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Randy Babb  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 01:57 PM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon; Lynda Lambert; Tom Cadden  
**Subject:** jaguars

Jim,

Got a call from ch 5 (Cara Liu) who wants to do a jaguar interview. How do you guys want to handle this.

Babb

Randall D. Babb  
Arizona Game and Fish Dept.  
7200 E. University  
Mesa, AZ 85207  
480-324-3546

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**From:** Department News  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:37 PM  
**To:** ALL @ External; ALL @ Flagstaff; ALL @ Kingman; ALL @ Mesa; All @ Phoenix; ALL @ Pinetop; ALL @ Tucson; ALL @ Yuma  
**Subject:** Jaguar sighting in southeast Arizona

The department issued the following news release today to media. Media inquiries should be referred to Lynda Lambert (x7203) or Mark Hart (x4445).

### **Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

Game and Fish categorizes the report as a Class I-10, meaning the report is considered verifiable or highly probable, and visual or physical evidence is provided and confirmed.

The report was initially received on Saturday, Nov. 19 at 9 a.m. from an experienced hunter using dogs to hunt mountain lions. The dogs pursued an animal the hunter ultimately deemed was a jaguar. The animal was treed approximately 15 feet up in a mesquite tree, and the hunter was able to obtain photographs and video. After photographing the jaguar, the hunter quickly left the area with his dogs and observed from a distant point. The jaguar remained treed for approximately 15 minutes and then headed south.

Based on the images, biologists believe the jaguar is an adult male that appeared in good, healthy condition and weighed approximately 200 pounds.

Biologists who have viewed the photos consider them to be of excellent quality with considerable detail. In the future, the department hopes to compare the photos and video to images of other jaguars photographed throughout Arizona in the past. They will try to use comparisons between a jaguar's unique spots, or "rosettes," to determine if the animal has been identified previously.

Four of the last five confirmed jaguar sightings in Arizona have been reported by hunters, who all took responsible action to document the animal, report it to Game and Fish, and leave the area once the animal was identified as a jaguar. These hunters have provided biologists with critical information that may not otherwise be known, information that will help increase the understanding of the species' existence in the borderland area.

The species has been protected outside of the United States under the Endangered Species Act since 1973. That protection was extended to jaguars within the U.S. in 1997, the year after their presence in the Arizona and New Mexico borderlands was confirmed.

Jaguars once ranged from southern South America through Central America and Mexico and into the southern United States. It is believed that southern Arizona is the most northern part of the range for a population of jaguars living in Sonora, Mexico. As noted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in a 2006 report, it appears there is "regular intermittent use of the borderlands area by wide-ranging males." The report also observes that "no indication of the presence of females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

**Contact**

Mark A. Hart (520) 388-4445  
Public Information Officer, Tucson

Lynda Lambert (623) 236-7203  
Public Information Officer, Phoenix

**Arizona Game and Fish Department****NEWS RELEASE**

For immediate release, Nov. 21, 2011

**Game and Fish confirms report of jaguar in southern Arizona**

TUCSON, Ariz. – The Arizona Game and Fish Department over the weekend was able to confirm a hunter's report of a jaguar southeast of Tucson and collect hair samples from the area for possible DNA testing.

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females or cubs, indicates that physical and biological features in the U.S. may allow individual transients to survive, at least temporarily, but do not support a breeding population."

Jaguars are the only cat in North America that roar. They prey on a variety of mammals, fish, birds and reptiles. Females breed year-round and have litters of one to four cubs that stay with their mother for nearly two years.

-30-

The Arizona Game and Fish Department prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age, disability in its programs and activities. If anyone believes they have been discriminated against in any Game and Fish program or activity, including its employment practices, the individual may file a complaint alleging discrimination directly with the Game and Fish Deputy Director, 5000 W. Carefree Highway, Phx., AZ 85086, (602) 942-3000 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4040 N. Fairfax Dr., Ste. 130, Arlington, VA 22203. If you require this document in an alternative format, please contact the Game and Fish Deputy Director as listed above or by calling TTY at 1-800 367-8939.

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:05 PM  
**To:** Tim Snow; Terry Johnson; Larry Voyles; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Brad Fulk; Robert Fink  
**Subject:** Genetic analysis of hair samples  
**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Red

Hello all,

Here are my thoughts regarding hair samples. Melanie Culver is recognized as one of the leading people for genetic analysis for cats. She not only sits on the jaguar recovery team but she also sits on the ocelot recovery team as well. If we ask her not to share the results besides us and USFWS, or whatever we decide, I think she would respect our request. Also, we know U of A is the recipients of the Homeland Security Monitoring grant and I think this would help establish communications and expectations for the work they are preparing to start sometime in the near future.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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## Michelle Black

---

**From:** Gary R. Hovatter  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 2:36 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson; Tim Snow; Larry Voyles; Bob Broscheid; Larry Riley; Ty Gray; Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt; Brad Fulk; Robert Fink; Sharen Adams  
**Cc:** Jim Paxon; Tom Cadden; Lynda Lambert; Mark A. Hart; Esther Rubin; Anne Justice-Allen; Leonard Ordway; Jim Odenkirk; Jim Odenkirk; Linda Pollock; Linda Pollock  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar report: USFWS Contact today

Folks,

Please note the additional addressees.

DD Broscheid and I are in concurrence on this.

1. **Larry Riley & WMD are Department-level lead on this issue, so I need Larry to weigh in on this.**
  - WMD lead includes such things as coordinating the Department's approach to the UA study and overarching policy on jaguar conservation.
  - Region V is lead for the Region issues: coordination with the RP, follow-on research at the sighting location and related areas, notifications of Region-based agencies and entities, etc. .
  - Once Department-level decisions are made (and resourcing, necessary authorities, and other issues are addressed) the Region takes the hand-off to implement day-to-day, on-the-ground jaguar work.
  - The Region is essential to the success of this effort, BUT it has to be completely synched up with Department –level issues/concerns that may not seem directly related to the work at hand. The biological, legal, political, and financial realities we are dealing with mandate that.
  - I expect the Region and WMD to continue actively communicating and coordinating through this entire process.
2. **With regard to the UA contract study:**
  - The Department remains committed to jaguar conservation in Arizona. No one –Federal, NGO or individual -- in this state has put more money, staff hours, or professional reputation on the line than this Agency.
  - That said, our coordination with the UA study will be discussed at next week's internal meeting.
  - A logical follow-on to that would be a sit down with USFWS and UA to discuss this, but there are some issues to resolve before even that becomes easily doable.
  - I hate to be so oblique on the last part, but that is how it will have to remain for now.
3. **So, take the UA jaguar study off the table for now and, to me, the testing question comes down to this:**
  - We have materials we need to have genetically tested.
  - We can't do it in house so, ergo, we will need a third party to do it.
  - Do we have confidence in the UA lab?
  - Would/will they have to use the UA Vet Diagnostic Lab?
  - Do we have equally or more credible labs that would be as quick (or quicker) and as cheap (or cheaper)?
  - Tim is correct, I believe, about USFWS's ESA role in our processing of the hair samples BUT, that assumes what we have is, in fact, jaguar hair. Considering that one of the questions we need an answer to is: "Is this jaguar hair?", until that is confirmed, I'm not sure we can't engage whatever lab we believe is competent to do the work. Having said that, I'm not sure we need to be hard over about it.
4. **If we have confidence in the UA lab's technical competence, and the turnaround times and costs are acceptable, I would be more than good with having them do the work . . . with these caveats:**

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 23, 2011 1:47 PM  
**To:** Larry Riley  
**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt; Eric Gardner; marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Terry Johnson; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; scott\_richardson@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Fw: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011

I'm sorry, I typed in Marit's email incorrectly. I'm resending with the correction.

----- Forwarded by Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI on 11/23/2011 12:28 PM -----

Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI

11/23/2011 10:57 AM

To "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>

cc "Bill Vanpelt" <BVanpelt@azgfd.gov>, "Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>, marit\_alanen@fws.gov, TJohnson@azgfd.gov, Jean Calhoun/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS, Scott

Richardson/R2/FWS/DOI@FWS

Subject RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011 [Link](#)

Here you are, Larry.....

Marit Alanen  
US Fish & Wildlife Service  
201 N Bonita Ave, Suite 141  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
Ph: (520) 670-6150 x 234  
Fx: (520) 670-6155

Have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

Erin Fernandez  
Mexico Program Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Arizona Ecological Services - Tucson  
201 N. Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
Tucson, AZ 85745

Ph: (520) 670-6150 x 238  
Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>

11/22/2011 06:01 PM

To <Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov>, <marit\_alanen@fws.gov>

cc "Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>, "Bill Vanpelt" <BVanpelt@azgfd.gov>, "Terry Johnson" <TJohnson@azgfd.gov>

Subject RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011

2/2/2012

Thanks for the feedback Erin. I'd really appreciate getting Marit's contact info if at all possible.

Lawrence M. Riley  
Assistant Director  
Wildlife Management Division  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000

623-236-7302  
[lriley@azgfd.gov](mailto:lriley@azgfd.gov)

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**From:** Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov [mailto:Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 11:13 AM  
**To:** Larry Riley  
**Cc:** JAGRT Carlos A Lopez Gonzalez; JAGRT Howard Quigley; Marit\_Alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; scott\_richardson@fws.gov  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011

Larry,  
Thank you very much for the great information. The Jaguar Recovery Team looks forward to receiving any additional details. I understand Eric Gardner is coordinating with Jean and Steve regarding releasing details of the location.

I am cc'ing Marit Alanen here because she is taking over as the FWS jaguar lead. I will be assisting her when I return part-time from maternity leave in January.

Thank you!

Erin Fernandez  
Mexico Program Coordinator  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Arizona Ecological Services - Tucson  
201 N. Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
Tucson, AZ 85745

Ph: (520) 670-6150 x 238  
Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Larry Riley"  
<LRiley@azgfd.gov>

2/2/2012

11/21/2011 09:12 AM To "JAGRT Carlos A Lopez Gonzalez" <cats4mex@aol.com>, "JAGRT Howard Quigley" <hquigley@panthera.org>, MX Jesús Lizardo Cruz Romo <jcruz@conanp.gob.mx>, "MX Oscar Ramirez Flores" <oramirez@conanp.gob.mx>, "FWS Erin Fernandez" <erin\_fernandez@fws.gov>  
cc

Subject FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V (Southern Arizona) on Saturday November 19, 2011

**Importance:** High

I just sent the attached update to our Commissioners, and wanted to make sure you were aware of it too. I believe these observations to be pretty accurate, but recognize that additional detail and clarity will be forthcoming over the next several days.

Commissioners,

An event unfolded regarding a Jaguar in Region 5 that the Director thought you should be aware of. Tim Snow, Aaron Miller, and Mark Hart of the Regional Staff have been working on this issue since Saturday morning. At this point it appears rather certain that a lion hunter treed an adult male Jaguar on Saturday morning. The animal, after about 15 minutes, exited the tree that it was in and moved on. Here are some preliminary observations. As these solidify into facts, we'll provide updates to you.

- On the morning of Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> Field Supervisor Duane Aubuchon was contacted by a lion hunter whose hounds had reportedly treed a jaguar.
- The location of the sighting was actually eventually to be determined to be in the Whetstone Mountains, which are in Brad Faulk's sector, and the information was passed along to Tim Snow, the Region 5 Nongame Wildlife Specialist (Tim Snow).
- Tim worked with various Region 5 personnel to attempt to follow up on the report. The Department's ability to respond to the site was hampered by the remote location of the sighting and the fact that many officers were participating in a youth hunting camp located elsewhere in the sector. Later information indicates that the jaguar left the tree approximately 15 minutes after being treed, so Department personnel would not have been able to independently confirm the sighting even had they responded immediately.
- The lion hunter initially indicated that some of his hounds were injured and later determined to seek veterinary assistance due to the injuries.
- As a result, Tim Snow was unable to meet with the hunter as planned that evening; however, the hunter said he would provide pictures by email that evening or possibly the following day. He also said he would be willing to take AGFD personnel to the site where the cat was treed the following day (Sunday).
- Officer Aaron Miller and I&E Specialist Mark Hart met with the hunter on Sunday and he showed them pictures and video of the cat; however, he did not provide copies to AGFD as he is considering his options due to the potential value of the photos. We continue to discuss options with the Reporting Party to determine if we might obtain copies of his photographs.
- Both AGFD personnel concurred that the animal appeared to be a jaguar. It was reported to be a healthy male jaguar in his prime.
- AGFD personnel examined the site where the cat was treed and collected hairs from the tree that may belong to the jaguar. However, they do not know if the hairs contain the necessary follicles for genetic testing.
- AGFD will send the hair samples off for genetic testing if the materials prove suitable.
- Region 5 will follow-up with the reporting party on Monday to determine if he has decided to share any

2/2/2012

photos or video or not.

- USFWS AESO and APHIS have been notified of the sighting. The FS supervisor will be notified by Region 5 personnel on Monday (this meets the notification requirements of our permit).

Working with Eric Gardner, our Chief of Nongame, we have put together this abstract. As information firms up and analysis allows for more definitive statement; the Department will provide follow-up information.

Larry Riley

Assistant Director

Wildlife Management Division

623-236-7302

623-680-2623 (cell)[attachment "Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf" deleted by Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI] [attachment "Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf" deleted by Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI] [attachment "Lawrence M. Riley (LRiley@azgfd.gov).vcf" deleted by Erin Fernandez/R2/FWS/DOI]

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 9:05 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; Jim Odenkirk; Larry Riley; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean--please share the data with UofA, emphasizing close hold. Thanks...

Steve Spangle, Field Supervisor  
 Arizona Ecological Services Office  
 2321 W. Royal Palm Road  
 Phoenix, AZ 85021  
 Office: 602/242-0210, x-244  
 Fax: 602/242-2513

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

11/29/2011 08:43 AM

To <Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov>

cc "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>, <Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov>, "Tim Snow" <TSnow@azgfd.gov>, "Raul Vega" <RVega@azgfd.gov>, "Mark A. Hart" <MHart@azgfd.gov>, "Jim Odenkirk" <JOdenkirk@azgfd.gov>

Subject RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean,

We discussed the sharing of jaguar and ocelot observation data (specifically locational data) yesterday and confirmed that the best course of action is for the Department to follow the intent of our MOU with the FWS as well as our 10(a)(1)(A) permit stipulations, which require us to notify the AESO, WL Services (APHIS) and the BLM and/or FS Supervisor when there is a confirmed jaguar or ocelot observation. We interpret this to mean that these 3 to 4 agencies should receive the location specifics of the observation to ensure the best management practices occur post-sighting. These notifications did occur upon confirmation of the most recent sighting. However, since UofA is on a FWS contract, we believe the FWS will need to determine what data you intent to share and how that will occur. At the moment, the location information sent to you earlier (see below) is still the best I have. Tim Snow in Region 5 will provide me with a completed jaguar observation form that will likely include more specific locational information. I will pass that on to you as soon as I have it.

I know you are conscious of the need for maintaining a level of confidentiality of the data (as is indicated by your plan to share data with UofA through a Confidentiality Agreement). The Department agrees that a conservative approach to sharing the data is warranted to protect the animal from potential future harassment by individuals who may flock to the area in hopes of seeing the jaguar itself and we encourage you to continually remind personnel of the confidential nature of the information. We do recognize that other entities also need observation data (e.g. counties), although in many cases they do not need the specific locational information. We will share observation and location information as



**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 9:37 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Jim Odenkirk; Larry Riley; Mark A. Hart; Raul Vega; Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Tim Snow; Susan\_sferra@fws.gov  
**Subject:** RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Thank you, Eric. We are indeed aware of the need to maintain data confidentiality and will ensure that U of A signs a confidentiality agreement. We do plan to share location data with U of A in order to ensure the monitoring program has the most chance of success. In addition, we will carefully evaluate if and when we would share the data with other entities that claim a need to know. At this point, we have not received any other formal request.

Jean

Jean A. Calhoun  
 Assistant Field Supervisor  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 Arizona Ecological Services Office  
 201 North Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 Office: (520) 670-6150 ext. 223  
 Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

11/29/2011 08:43 AM

To <Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov>

cc "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>, <Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov>, "Tim Snow" <TSnow@azgfd.gov>, "Raul Vega" <RVega@azgfd.gov>, "Mark A. Hart" <MHart@azgfd.gov>, "Jim Odenkirk" <JOdenkirk@azgfd.gov>

Subject RE: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean,

We discussed the sharing of jaguar and ocelot observation data (specifically locational data) yesterday and confirmed that the best course of action is for the Department to follow the intent of our MOU with the FWS as well as our 10(a)(1)(A) permit stipulations, which require us to notify the AESO, WL Services (APHIS) and the BLM and/or FS Supervisor when there is a confirmed jaguar or ocelot observation. We interpret this to mean that these 3 to 4 agencies should receive the location specifics of the observation to ensure the best management practices occur post-sighting. These notifications did occur upon confirmation of the most recent sighting. However, since UofA is on a FWS contract, we believe the FWS will need to determine what data you intent to share and how that will occur. At the moment, the location information sent to you earlier (see below) is still the best I have. Tim Snow in Region 5 will provide me with a completed jaguar observation form that will likely include more specific locational information. I will pass that on to you as soon as I have it.

I know you are conscious of the need for maintaining a level of confidentiality of the data (as is indicated by your plan to share data with UofA through a Confidentiality Agreement). The Department agrees that a conservative approach to sharing the data is warranted to protect the animal from potential future

2/2/2012

harassment by individuals who may flock to the area in hopes of seeing the jaguar itself and we encourage you to continually remind personnel of the confidential nature of the information. We do recognize that other entities also need observation data (e.g. counties), although in many cases they do not need the specific locational information. We will share observation and location information as determined is needed on those occasions (and have done so regarding the recent sighting).

I'll reply to your other email regarding your other information requests.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**From:** Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov [mailto:Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov]  
**Sent:** Monday, November 21, 2011 4:41 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Larry Riley; Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** Re: FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Thanks, Eric. Let me know regarding sharing this data as well as other jaguar data with U of A for monitoring project per my earlier email. Thanks.

Jean A. Calhoun  
 Assistant Field Supervisor  
 U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
 Arizona Ecological Services Office  
 201 North Bonita Avenue, Suite 141  
 Tucson, AZ 85745  
 Office: (520) 670-6150 ext. 223  
 Fax: (520) 670-6155

"Eric Gardner" <EGardner@azgfd.gov>

11/21/2011 01:19 PM

To <jean\_calhoun@fws.gov>

cc <Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov>, "Larry Riley" <LRiley@azgfd.gov>, "Tim Snow"

2/2/2012

<TSnow@azgfd.gov>

Subject FW: Jaguar Observation in Region V on Saturday November 19, 2011

Jean, Here is the text regarding location from the Region 5 report. I will see if we have and if we can share the specific GPS coordinates. Seems likely in the interest of jaguar conservation, but need to make sure we have no FOIA concerns, etc.

AGFD Wildlife Manager Devin Skinner was notified approximately 9 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, that a mountain lion hunter had treed a jaguar in the Whetstone Mountains. The jaguar was initially sighted in proximity to Bathtub Canyon, roughly five miles south of I-10 and west of Karchner Caverns State Park.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**623-236-7507**

ell)

## Bill Vanpelt

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 3:04 PM  
**To:** Sabra Tonn  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner; Larry Riley; Terry Johnson; Gary R. Hovatter  
**Subject:** AZ sighting info requested by Marit  
**Attachments:** Jaguar-Ocelot-Jaguarundi.AGFD Pruss Report on Cat Sightings.2009.pdf; Jaguar AGFD Records for AZ-NM 1900 - 2009.2011.Draft 03.docx; Jaguar BJDJ Jag Data.Provided to TBJ by Jack Childs for AGFD Use.20110106.xlsx; Jaguar Conservation Assessment for AZ-NM-NMX.20110131.Final Draft to Recovery Team.pdf; Jaguars on the Edge -- USA Chapter.Final Draft for Recovery Team.20110118.pdf

Sabra,

Here is the information we provided to the Service through our recovery team participation. I understand Marit is taking Erin Fernandez place on the recovery team. She should be able to ask Erin for it (see email below on when it was sent).

Also, there was an internal meeting yesterday regarding jaguar and the recent sighting. We have been receiving multiple requests for the information, even from different Service people. We decided yesterday we were going to tell people requesting the information it has been provided to the Service and to ask them. If you get a chance, talk to Eric about the current direction from the jaguar meeting. No one from habitat was at the meeting but Larry Riley, Eric and me was at it.

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Monday, February 21, 2011 11:19 AM  
**To:** WSC Eric Sanderson

**Cc:** Bill Vanpelt; FWS Erin Fernandez

**Subject:** Jaguar: Pruss 1999 (and other documents of possible interest for use within the Recovery Team)

Hi, Eric!

It is always disappointing to search for something for a long time, only to be completely disappointed when you finally find it. So it was for us with the "Pruss Report." When late last year we finally located a copy of the report, which had never been seen let alone vetted in AGFD Phoenix, three things caught my eye: first, that it was an incredibly far cry from anything that would warrant the credibility of being called a "report" let alone cited as if it were a publication; second, that some of the content was clearly at odds with other information in our files and some of it was completely unrecorded in our files or unsupported by any other information in our files; and third, that the contents had actually been incorporated into and cited by the Grigione publication. This is truly how pseudo-records are generated.

Anyway, I have attached five documents for you to use as appropriate within (for reasons explained below) the Jaguar Recovery Team process:

1. The Pruss Report. If AGFD could, we would retract this report. But once something is published or cited, you can't do that. Instead, in a forthcoming contract report to USFWS we will address the jaguarundi problems in the Pruss report and in other reports or publications this year we will address the jaguar, ocelot, and jaguarundi problems in the Pruss Report, in Grigione et al. and in Girmendonk. I have what I need for the former and the latter but I have yet to make contact with Grigione to see if she will provide access to the information on which she based her publication.
2. Latest iteration (still draft) of AGFD accepted Jaguar records for AZ-NM. I am within details for a few records of completing this reassessment of all sightings in AZ. I have opted to include the NM sightings because our opinions of those might not always coincide with the opinions of NMDGF.
3. Final output of jaguar records for AZ from BJDP (courtesy of Jack Childs). Jack and I continue to work on this document as I parse the previously-listed AGFD document. I am providing this one to the Team, probably against Jack's wishes, because it includes the Easting-Northing information that enables you to pinpoint the locations referenced in the AGFD document.
4. AZ-NM Jaguar Conservation Assessment. I think I am within a few days of releasing this document to the Recovery Team and the public but thought it might be of use to you in regard to its treatment of the advisability of using point-in-time locations to map jaguar habitat. I doubt any of the concerns expressed about that approach are at all new to you.
5. USA Jaguar Status Report from Workshop at Wild9 Conference. I believe the workshop editors plan to publish the proceedings later this year, along with a boiled-down rangewide overview. Because of concerns about pre-publication, I had not intended to release this document to the Recovery Team or the public but thought it might be of use to you as you deal with the AZ-NM point-in-time locations.

If you have any questions about these documents, Bill and/or I would be happy to TRY to address them.

Thx, Terry B. Johnson

Endangered Species Coordinator

\*\*\*\*\*

Tel 623-236-7707; Fax 623-236-7366

Email [teebeej@azgfd.gov](mailto:teebeej@azgfd.gov)

Website <http://azgfd.gov/>

\*\*\*\*\*

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 27, 2011 10:05 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Best shots we have of jaguar  
**Attachments:** CDucanjagnewscon112211 013.jpg; CDucanjagnewscon112211 011.jpg;  
CDucanjagnewscon112211 012.jpg

Eric, I needed I will ask Donnie Fenn if I can reshoot them. They are also showing up online from news stations.

Thanks again for attending yesterday, as you figured prominently in the TV news coverage.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
555 N. Greasewood Road  
Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445  
cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
Mhart@azgfd.gov

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Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Facebook page  
Click [here](#) for the Tucson office Twitter page

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 9:42 AM  
**To:** Mark A. Hart  
**Subject:** RE: Best shots we have of jaguar

Thanks Mark. I think these should be okay for now and hope that we end up with the high resolution originals sometime. We do need to think about how and what we share with other biologists that may want to do a comparison with sightings south of the border. Something we should discuss during today's call.

Are you grabbing the electronic versions you find on the web? They will be lower resolution of course and of the same photos, so may not be a need to do so.

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
Work: (623) 236-7507

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**From:** Mark A. Hart  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 27, 2011 10:05 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert; Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** Best shots we have of jaguar

Eric, I needed I will ask Donnie Fenn if I can reshoot them. They are also showing up online from news stations.

Thanks again for attending yesterday, as you figured prominently in the TV news coverage.

Mark A. Hart  
Public Information Officer  
Arizona Game & Fish Department  
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Tucson, AZ 85745  
office (520) 388-4445

cell (520) 282-0978  
fax (520) 628-5376  
Mhart@azgfd.gov

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2011

## Eric Gardner

**From:** Michael E Tewes [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 26, 2012 7:49 AM  
**To:** Arturo Caso  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Request for jaguar pelage comparison  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Comparison.ppt

FYI. Would you be able to comment on this, Arturo? -Mike

**From:** Eric Gardner [<mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; [proyectojaguar@gmail.com](mailto:proyectojaguar@gmail.com); Michael E Tewes; [hquigley@panthera.org](mailto:hquigley@panthera.org)  
**Cc:** [marit\\_alanen@fws.gov](mailto:marit_alanen@fws.gov); [Jean\\_Calhoun@fws.gov](mailto:Jean_Calhoun@fws.gov); [Erin\\_Fernandez@fws.gov](mailto:Erin_Fernandez@fws.gov); [Steve\\_Spangle@fws.gov](mailto:Steve_Spangle@fws.gov); Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Hello everyone,  
I thought I'd check back in to see if anyone has had the time to do any comparisons of the November 19 jaguar sighting with other jaguars. I recognize you all have day jobs that someone actually pays you to do, versus my constant begging for assistance, but I certainly appreciate any insight any of you can provide regarding comparisons. We may be able to get additional photos, solely for comparison purposes, if we can indicate what is needed (e.g. you see an area that make you wonder but you need a better photo of the new cat). My current read on it is that nobody has seen anything to make them believe it may be a jaguar previously documented, but I am just speculating and certainly can't (won't) put words in anyone's mouth.

Thanks, and happy holidays!

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**From:** Eric Gardner

2/2/2012

## Eric Gardner

**From:** proyecto jaguar [proyectojaguar@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 9:09 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Dear Eric,

I think its a new visitor.

Rodrigo

---

**De:** Eric Gardner [mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov]  
**Enviado el:** miércoles, 21 de diciembre de 2011 11:44 a.m.  
**Para:** Eric Gardner; proyectojaguar@gmail.com; Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu; hquigley@panthera.org  
**CC:** marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov;  
Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxson; Mark A. Hart; Tim  
Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Asunto:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Hello everyone,  
I thought I'd check back in to see if anyone has had the time to do any comparisons of the November 19 jaguar sighting with other jaguars. I recognize you all have day jobs that someone actually pays you to do, versus my constant begging for assistance, but I certainly appreciate any insight any of you can provide regarding comparisons. We may be able to get additional photos, solely for comparison purposes, if we can indicate what is needed (e.g. you see an area that make you wonder but you need a better photo of the new cat). My current read on it is that nobody has seen anything to make them believe it may be a jaguar previously documented, but I am just speculating and certainly can't (won't) put words in anyone's mouth.

Thanks, and happy holidays!

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2011 6:05 PM  
**To:** 'proyectojaguar@gmail.com'; 'Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu'; 'hquigley@panthera.org'  
**Cc:** marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; 'Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov'; 'Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov'; Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** Request for jaguar pelage comparison  
**Attachments:** Jaguar Comparison.ppt

Rodrigo Nunez, Howard Quigley and Michael Tewes,  
 It has been an exciting two weeks in Arizona, with the documentation of a male jaguar on November 19<sup>th</sup> and of what appears to be an ocelot photographed earlier today. As in the past, the Department greatly appreciates any outside / independent analysis of the photo documentation to verify the animals to species when possible and also to attempt to determine if an animal has been previously documented before.

To that end, please find attached a PowerPoint presentation that includes slides of a jaguar observed in Arizona on November 19, 2011:

- 2011 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi (taken from the web)
- 2010 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi (taken from the web)
- 2006 Warner Glenn Bootheel, NM (provided for scientific analysis only; please do not distribute)
- Various Macho A photos (including one collage also contains 2 Macho B photos)

The Department values your expert opinions on this subject and, if you are able, I would appreciate hearing your analysis.

Thank you,

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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© Warner Glenn 2006

Boothed NM

2/21/06



© Warner Glenn  
2006

Foto 3

Macho B ?

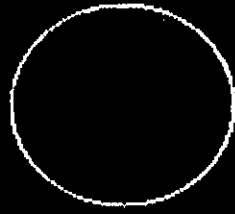


Foto 6  
Macho A ?

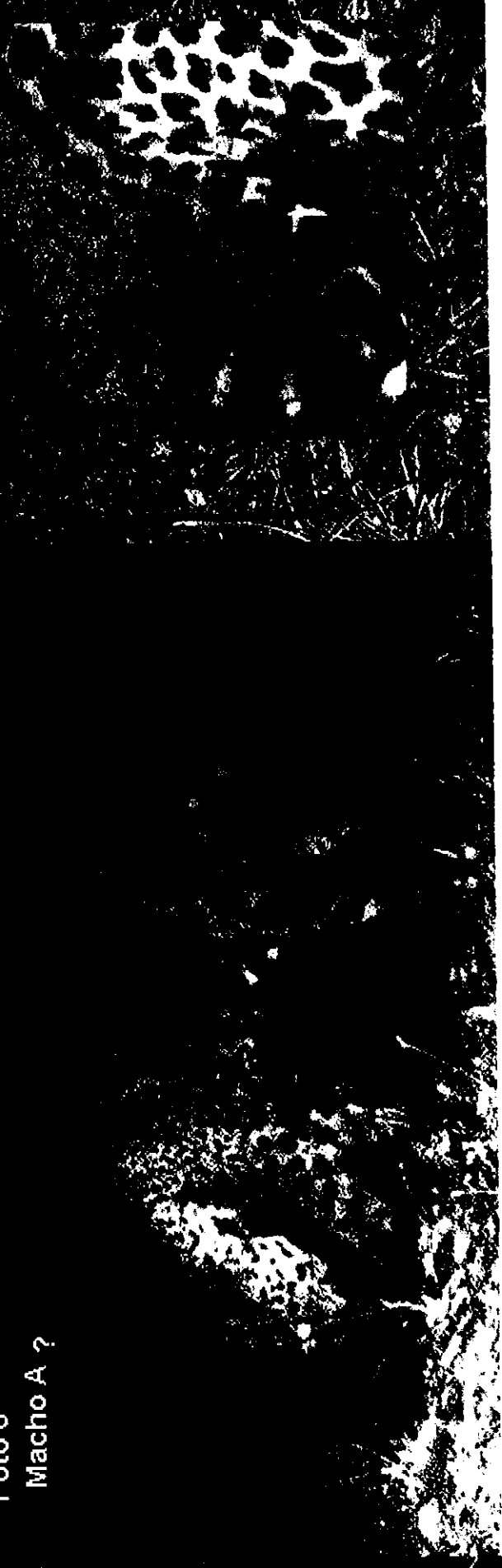


Foto 1

Macho A



Foto 2

Macho A



Foto 4

Macho A

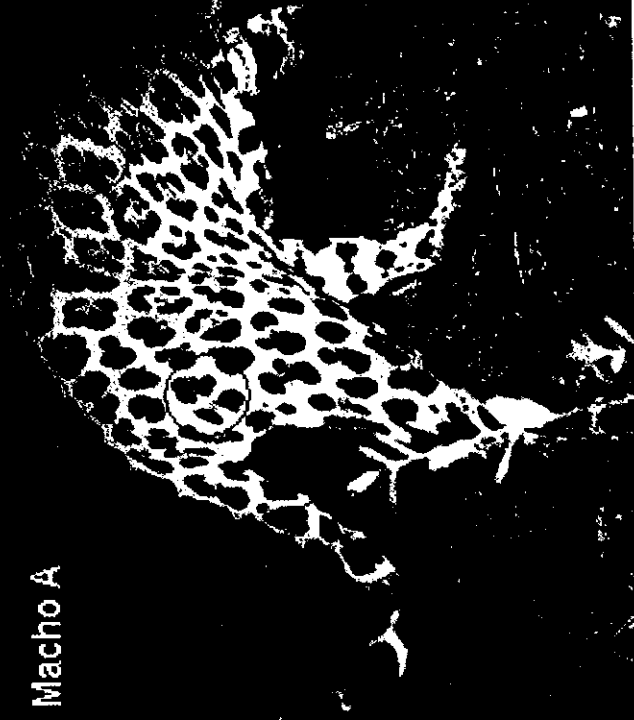
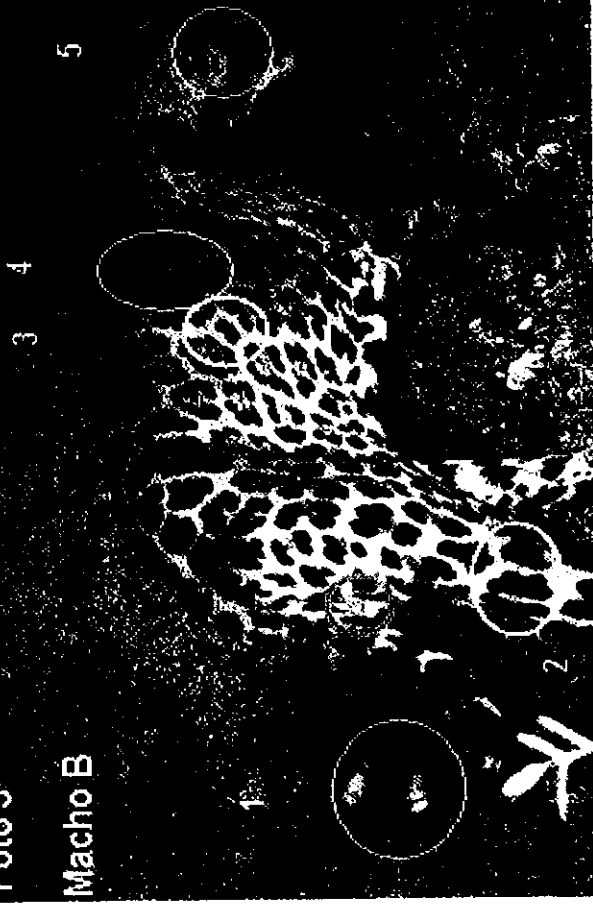


Foto 5

Macho B



## Bill Vanpelt

---

**From:** Bill Vanpelt  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 1:54 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** Other Macho A photos  
**Attachments:** Jaguar righth side.JPG; Jaguar left side.JPG

Here they are

Bill Van Pelt  
WAFWA Grassland Coordinator  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, Arizona 85086  
bvanpelt@azgfd.gov  
623-236-7573 Office  
623-236-7926 Fax



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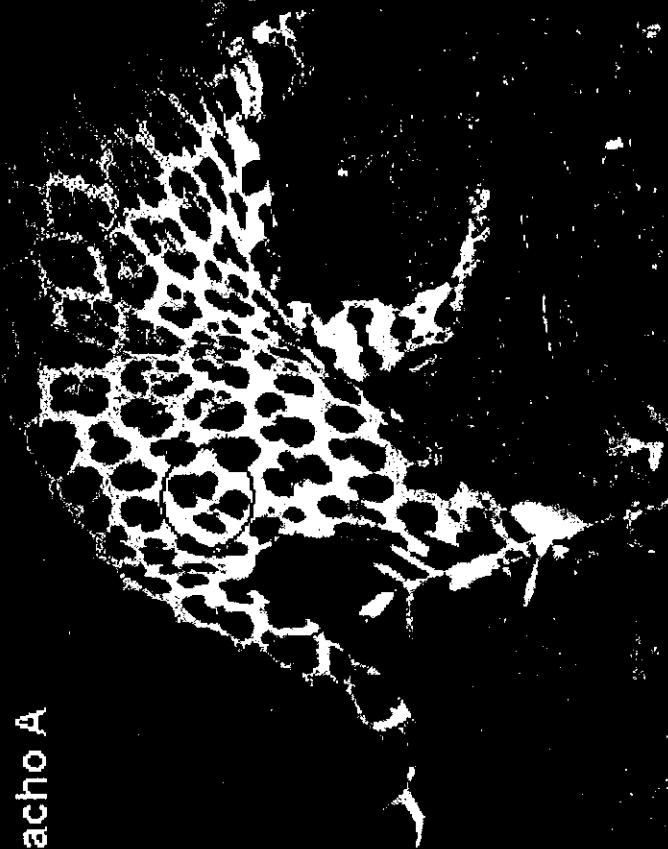
Foto 2

Macho A



Foto 4

Macho A



3 4

5



2



Foto 3

Macho B ?

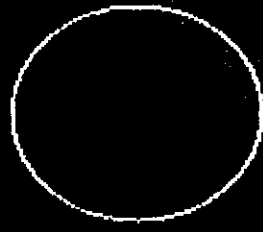


Foto 6

Macho A ?



**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Francisco Abarca  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 5:25 PM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Bill Vanpelt  
**Cc:** Rodrigo Nunez #2 ([REDACTED])  
**Subject:** RE: draft jag comparison email - need addresses

The address for Rodrigo Nunez is correct and I also found another one:  
[REDACTED]

Can I send the PPP to Rodrigo Medellin and Gerardo Ceballos?

**Francisco "Paco" Abarca**  
**International and Borderlands Program Manager**

Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086  
U.S.A.  
Tel. (623) 236-7580 / Fax (623) 236-7926  
e-mail: fabarca@azgfd.gov

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**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 01, 2011 4:30 PM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Francisco Abarca  
**Cc:** Larry Riley  
**Subject:** draft jag comparison email - need addresses

**Bill and Paco,**

I intend to send this to the following:

Michael E Tewes [Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu]

Howard Quigley – need email address; he can involve the jag tech committee, we do not need to send to them separately

Rodrigo Nunez – need email address, unless this is the right one: [proyectolaguar@gmail.com](mailto:proyectolaguar@gmail.com)

I'll cc: Erin and Marit; Spangle, SIA, AGFD folks, etc.

All,

Please find attached a PowerPoint presentation that includes slides of a jaguar observed in Arizona on November 19, 2011 as well as photos of the following jaguar observations:

- 2011 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi
- 2010 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi
- 2006 Warner Glenn Bootheel, NM
- Various Macho A photos (including one collage also contains 2 Macho B photos)

The Department is seeking independent analysis to determine if the jaguar sighted on November 19<sup>th</sup> is the same as any of the previously documented jaguars or if it is a unique animal. If you are able, I would appreciate hearing your analysis.

Thank you,

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 11:52 AM  
**To:** 'proyecto jaguar'  
**Cc:** Francisco Abarca  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Rodrigo

Me too, but I didn't want to influence your analysis. Thank you very much.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** proyecto jaguar [mailto:proyectojaguar@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 9:09 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Dear Eric,

I think its a new visitor.

Rodrigo

---

**De:** Eric Gardner [mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov]  
**Enviado el:** miércoles, 21 de diciembre de 2011 11:44 a.m.  
**Para:** Eric Gardner; proyectojaguar@gmail.com; Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu; hquigley@panthera.org  
**CC:** marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov;  
Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim  
Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Asunto:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Hello everyone,

2/2/2012

## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 8:18 AM  
**To:** Bill Vanpelt; Tim Snow; Terry Johnson; Larry Riley  
**Subject:** FW: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

This is the only response I have received so far.

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
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---

**From:** proyecto jaguar [mailto:proyectojaguar@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 22, 2011 9:09 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Dear Eric,

I think its a new visitor.

Rodrigo

---

**De:** Eric Gardner [mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov]  
**Enviado el:** miércoles, 21 de diciembre de 2011 11:44 a.m.  
**Para:** Eric Gardner; proyectojaguar@gmail.com; Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu; hquigley@panthera.org  
**CC:** marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov;  
Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov; Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim  
Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Asunto:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Hello everyone,  
I thought I'd check back in to see if anyone has had the time to do any comparisons of the November 19 jaguar sighting with other jaguars. I recognize you all have day jobs that someone actually pays you to do, versus my constant begging for assistance, but I certainly appreciate any insight any of you can

2/2/2012

provide regarding comparisons. We may be able to get additional photos, solely for comparison purposes, if we can indicate what is needed (e.g. you see an area that make you wonder but you need a better photo of the new cat). My current read on it is that nobody has seen anything to make them believe it may be a jaguar previously documented, but I am just speculating and certainly can't (won't) put words in anyone's mouth.

Thanks, and happy holidays!

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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---

**From:** Eric Gardner

**Sent:** Friday, December 02, 2011 6:05 PM

**To:** 'proyectojaguar@gmail.com'; 'Michael.Tewes@tamuk.edu'; 'hquigley@panthera.org'

**Cc:** marit\_alanen@fws.gov; Jean\_Calhoun@fws.gov; 'Erin\_Fernandez@fws.gov'; 'Steve\_Spangle@fws.gov'; Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt

**Subject:** Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Rodrigo Nunez, Howard Quigley and Michael Tewes, It has been an exciting two weeks in Arizona, with the documentation of a male jaguar on November 19<sup>th</sup> and of what appears to be an ~~ocelot~~ **SERVAL!** photographed earlier today. As in the past, the Department greatly appreciates any outside / independent analysis of the photo documentation to verify the animals to species when possible and also to attempt to determine if an animal has been previously documented before.

To that end, please find attached a PowerPoint presentation that includes slides of a jaguar observed in Arizona on November 19, 2011:

- 2011 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi (taken from the web)
- 2010 Sky Island Alliance / El Aribabi (taken from the web)
- 2006 Warner Glenn Bootheel, NM (provided for scientific analysis only; please do not distribute)
- Various Macho A photos (including one collage also contains 2 Macho B photos)

The Department values your expert opinions on this subject and, if you are able, I would appreciate hearing your analysis.

Thank you,

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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## Eric Gardner

---

**From:** Arturo Caso [Arturo.Caso@tamuk.edu]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 20, 2012 9:20 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner  
**Cc:** Sasha Carvajal-Villarreal  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Dear Mr. Gardner,

Sorry for the late reply, but if it could be of any help, both Sasha Carvajal, who is doing her PhD dissertation identifying jaguars with cameras, and me, consider that the new jaguar is different than the rest.

With best regards,  
Arturo

M.Ss. Arturo Caso  
Research Associate  
Caesar Kleberg Wildlife Research Institute  
Texas A&M University-Kingsville  
[arturo.caso@tamuk.edu](mailto:arturo.caso@tamuk.edu)  
[leopardproj@hotmail.com](mailto:leopardproj@hotmail.com)

---

**From:** Eric Gardner [<mailto:EGardner@azgfd.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 21, 2011 11:44 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; [proyectojaguar@gmail.com](mailto:proyectojaguar@gmail.com); Michael E Tewes; [hquigley@panthera.org](mailto:hquigley@panthera.org)  
**Cc:** [marit\\_alanen@fws.gov](mailto:marit_alanen@fws.gov); [Jean\\_Calhoun@fws.gov](mailto:Jean_Calhoun@fws.gov); [Erin\\_Fernandez@fws.gov](mailto:Erin_Fernandez@fws.gov); [Steve\\_Spangle@fws.gov](mailto:Steve_Spangle@fws.gov); Larry Riley; Gary R. Hovatter; Bob Broscheid; Jim Paxon; Mark A. Hart; Tim Snow; Francisco Abarca; Bill Vanpelt  
**Subject:** RE: Request for jaguar pelage comparison

Hello everyone,  
I thought I'd check back in to see if anyone has had the time to do any comparisons of the November 19 jaguar sighting with other jaguars. I recognize you all have day jobs that someone actually pays you to do, versus my constant begging for assistance, but I certainly appreciate any insight any of you can provide regarding comparisons. We may be able to get additional photos, solely for comparison purposes, if we can indicate what is needed (e.g. you see an area that make you wonder but you need a better photo of the new cat). My current read on it is that nobody has seen anything to make them believe it may be a jaguar previously documented, but I am just speculating and certainly can't (won't) put words in anyone's mouth.

Thanks, and happy holidays!

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
Work: (623) 236-7507



**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 7:39 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar

Jimmy Huffman,

Thank you for the information you provided through our Send Comments link on our webpage. It certainly sounds as if you did everything you could to get the information to us at the time of your original sighting and I appreciate the effort. It is too bad no pictures were taken or that we were unable to get someone to the sight. I believe I recall that this information was shared with us (the Phoenix office) and the Region 5 office when it was originally called in. As noted, we really need some type of physical evidence to back up reports due to the all too common occurrence of misidentification. 99 times out of 100 (just a guess on my part) an urban sighting of three spotted animals at one location ends up being bobcats. Note to say that is what you saw, but only to point out the need for the physical evidence since there is simply no way to prove a verbal report. That is of course why the recent observation of a jaguar is so exciting – we have very clear, definitive evidence that identifies the animal as a jaguar without question and therefore allows us to document it as such.

Thanks for your interest in Arizona's wildlife, and please don't hesitate to contact us again even though we were unable to be fully responsive last time.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 24, 2011 9:31 PM  
**To:** Send Comments  
**Subject:** Jaguar

**Name:** Jimmy Huffman  
**City:** Tucson  
**State:** AZ  
**Zip:** 85713  
**Area:** Tucson

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Jaguar

Comment: Pretty exciting news about the latest confirmed jaguar sighting. I believe the last un confirmed sighting was mentioned on local news according to my daughter. And that it was in east Tucson near the Wal Mart. If that is the case it was when my daughter and I saw the three Jaguars near the Wal Mart and the movie theatre. Being after hours and only having the Operation Game Theft number I called it and apologized to the woman who answered, but she said it was very much OK and became very interested, as we were still watching them as we spoke to her. There were three of them together one very large, one medium sized, and a small cub. Though it was pretty exciting to see them I did not know at the time of the importance of such sightings and did not follow up on the sighting with AZGF. The lady kept me on the phone for a good little while as she attempted to see if someone was available to follow up on the sighting, and if I recall she may have ask for my contact information. But this was definitely a family. Unfortunately un confirmed. Jimmy Huffman

Type: Comment

Regarding: Other

Phone:

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 10:48 AM  
**To:** PIO-HQ  
**Cc:** Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar

All, Interesting that this man and daughter saw what he thought was a jag w/ 2 kittens so near an urban environment. Jim

Jim Paxon, Information Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway IEIN  
Phoenix AZ 85086  
Phone 623.236.7226 / Cell 602.920.8053  
[jpaxon@azgfd.gov](mailto:jpaxon@azgfd.gov) / Fax 623.236.7903  
[www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov)  
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**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 7:40 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar

FYI

Eric Gardner  
Nongame Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 W. Carefree Highway  
Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000  
Work: (623) 236-7507

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**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Monday, November 28, 2011 7:39 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments; Tim Snow  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 10:48 AM  
**To:** 'Keith Trantow'  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Sighting

Mr. Trantow, Thank you for your return email. While I appreciate your apology, I understand that the management of wildlife is a complex and controversial subject. Arizona Game and Fish is a transparent agency who stands on management by science and includes man as a member of the biological community. We manage on a landscape scale and work to sustain populations of both game and non-game animals in perpetuity. Our folks are the most dedicated professionals that I have ever had the pleasure to work with. I hope that you will share your newfound knowledge and conclusions with your neighbors, friends and family. There is an absolute wealth of information to be gained on our website at [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov) and there is a word search function at the top of the home page. If you have additional questions, please get in touch with me. Marshall Trimble is a good friend and Arizona's son. He knows the history and quality of our department. Best, Jim

Jim Paxon, Information Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway IEIN  
Phoenix AZ 85086  
Phone 623.236.7226  
[jpaxon@azgfd.gov](mailto:jpaxon@azgfd.gov) / Fax 623.236.7903  
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**From:** Keith Trantow [mailto: ]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 29, 2011 10:30 AM  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** RE: Jaguar Sighting

**Dear Mr. Paxon:**

To the utmost I appreciate your most kind, thoughtful and thorough reply and explanation to my untoward and virulent message which I sent to Arizona Fish and Game. I am delighted to learn that my opinions of Arizona Fish and Game were based on inaccurate and incorrect information.

Your message, Mr. Paxon, has greatly cheered me with your solicitous explanation of the extraordinary steps Arizona Fish and Game takes in protecting our state's wildlife.

Please accept my sincere apology and remorse, Mr. Paxon, for my sending to Arizona Fish and Game a vitriolic message based solely on ignorance and unenlightenment. Thank you so much for your considerate message, which I have printed and put in Marshall Trimble's book on Arizona history.

Sincerely,

[Signed:] *Keith Trantow*

**Keith Trantow**

-----Original Message-----

From: Jim Paxon

Sent: Nov 23, 2011 1:46 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Send Comments

Subject: RE: Jaguar Sighting

Mr. Trantow, I understand the emotion associated with jaguars and with wildlife management of all predators. Your comments are not respectfully submitted and my hope is that this message will help clear up any gray areas and misconceptions on your part. I will address your issues as presented:

- 1). Arizona Game and Fish Department has no plans to pursue this newly sighted jaguar. Our interests are in confirming the sighting and location, which has been done, and in analyzing any hairs and scat that can be recovered from the two "treed" locations?
- 2). The Department's employees were not involved in the trapping of Macho B. If you had kept up with the news, you would know that Mr. Emil McCain, a private biologist, pled guilty to felony charges of Endangered Species Act violations in federal court. At that time Mr. McCain said that no department employees were implicated nor did the department know of his intention to trap a jaguar. Recently, Ms. Janay Brun submitted a statement to federal court admitting that she assisted Mr. McCain by placing female jaguar scat at the trap locations. Again, she was not a Department employee, nor did she implicate any department employees in her statement. When Macho B. had a severe physical deterioration in physical condition, the Department and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service recovered him and transported him to the veterinary facility at the Phoenix Zoo. Large Mammal vets determined he was suffering renal failure and he was euthanized in a joint decision by the Department and U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- 3) We are not sure of what "horrendous policy" you refer. Are you aware that the Department has been instrumental in the recovery efforts for Southwest Bald Eagles (which have been delisted), California Condors, Sonoran Pronghorn, Chiracahua Leopard frogs, Apache Trout, and many other endangered species?
- 4). The Department does not receive one single dollar of Arizonan's tax money. Our funds come primarily from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, and also include funds from excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, archery tackle, fishing tackle and motor boat fuel. We also receive some funding from the Heritage Fund, which is proceeds from lottery sales and also a portion of Indian gaming revenues. So, if you really enjoy seeing wildlife in Arizona, thank a hunter or a fisherman.
- 5). The Department manages all wildlife so that each species of concern, game and non-game alike, has the very best opportunity to survive and be here for our grandchildren and future generations.

I sincerely hope this message gives you information to consider. You can find more at our website [www.azgfd.gov](http://www.azgfd.gov). If you would feel a need to carry on this discussion and are willing to act civilly, you may call me at 623-236-7226. I am the Department's Chief of Information.

Sincerely, Jim Paxon

Sent with Good ([www.good.com](http://www.good.com))

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Send Comments

**Sent:** Wednesday, November 23, 2011 08:31 AM US Mountain Standard Time  
**To:** Jim Paxon  
**Cc:** Gary R. Hovatter; Eric Gardner  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar Sighting

Jim,

**The following message requires your attention.** Would you please respond to the message below?

-----  
This message came from the Department's "Send Comments" section of the website  
-----

**Please take the following steps to complete this task:**

1. Type your response to this customer
2. Erase this portion of the message (this reduces confusion on the part of our customer)
3. Place 'sendcomments@azgfd.gov' in the CC line on every response so I can track the response

Thank you

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 22, 2011 5:28 PM  
**To:** Send Comments  
**Subject:** Jaguar Sighting

Name: Trantow  
City: Tucson  
State: AZ  
Zip: 85705  
Area:  
Email: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Jaguar Sighting

Comment: News media are reporting the sighting of a magnificent, beautiful, rare and endangered jaguar. I wish to desperately plead with you NOT to tranquilize, capture, mis-treat, mis-handle and ultimately KILL this superb animal in the way and manner your egregious employee(s) did the last time a superb jaguar was found in Arizona. For an agency which is SUPPOSED to protect Arizona wildlife, you certainly FAIL to do so. Should you continue your horrendous policy of killing exquisite animals such as jaguar, please be assured that I will lobby our state senators and representatives unceasingly to make major CUTS in the lavish state funding you receive at Arizona taxpayer expense, portions of which you use to DESTROY endangered wildlife such as jaguar. Do I make myself clear? If not, what portion of my message do you fail to understand? Respectfully submitted, [Signed:] Keith Trantow ... 1202 West Miracle Mile, Unit 9, Tucson, Arizona 85705-3726 ... [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] ...

Type: Comment  
Regarding: Hunting-Big Game  
Phone: [REDACTED]

## Jim Paxon

---

**From:** Jim Paxon  
**Sent:** Monday, December 05, 2011 10:42 AM  
**To:** Gary R. Hovatter; Mark A. Hart; Tom Cadden  
**Cc:** Lynda Lambert  
**Subject:** FW: [REDACTED] has shared: Arizona man spots jaguar; first U.S. sighting in 2 years

Folks, FYI, Read some of the comments for an eyeful. Jim

Jim Paxon, Information Branch Chief  
Arizona Game and Fish Department  
5000 West Carefree Highway IEIN  
Phoenix AZ 85086  
Phone 623.236.7226 / Cell 602.920.8053  
[jpaxon@azgfd.gov](mailto:jpaxon@azgfd.gov) / Fax 623.236.7903  
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**From:** ShareThis [<mailto:notifier@bounces.sharethis.com>] On Behalf Of [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, December 04, 2011 10:35 AM  
**To:** Eric Gardner; Jim Paxon  
**Subject:** [REDACTED] has shared: Arizona man spots jaguar; first U.S. sighting in 2 years

New York Times story to run today; have not seen on-line yet

Arizona man spots jaguar; first U.S. sighting in 2 years  
Source: [latimesblogs.latimes.com](http://latimesblogs.latimes.com)

Arizona jaguar: A jaguar was spotted in Arizona for the first time since an endangered cat named Macho B died in 2009.

[REDACTED] sent this using [ShareThis](#).

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 17, 2012 9:30 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments  
**Subject:** RE: Possible jaguar siting

Thank yo so much for contacting the Arizona Game and Fish Department with your information. It is difficult at best for me to give you any definitive information without a photograph or video, but I suspect you realize that. The only jaguars we have ever documented in AZ have all been large adult males. We have no records or data supporting the presence of any females or a breeding population. While I never say never when it comes to wildlife sightings, I suspect the animal you saw was something different. I suggest you look up photos of ocelots and also of servals. Ocelots are smaller than jaguars (much closer in size to a bobcat, which was yoru first thought on this animal). Servals are not native, but do escape from people who have them as pets or breed them under a special license. Both jaguars and ocelots are usually not very conspicuous and would probably not stay in an area playing once observed. Although not familiar with the RV park, I took a quick look on Inie and it did not appear to be the type of habitat we would expect to see a jaguar or an ocelot in. Servals and other unique hybrid domestic cats are more liekly to behave the way you describe and can be found in any habitat since they are not truly wild.

I have included the Tucson Region Nonagme Wildlife Specialist in case he has any better information on the area you describe.

Thanks again,

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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Martha,

**From:** [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Saturday, January 14, 2012 6:03 PM

**To:** Send Comments

**Subject:** Possible jaguar siting

Name: Martha Sewell

City: Tubac

State: AZ

Zip: 85646

Area: Tucson

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Possible jaguar siting

Comment: I was birding at the St. David Monastery/RV Park on 1/11/12. A cat came onto the trail ahead of me. I'm not good on cats. I thought maybe it was a Bobcat, but looking at images on the internet, it was not. It was smallish, had black and white stripes on the hind legs from the back. It was quite colorful, with white, sort of amber, and black. It was acting like a child - frolicking, jumping around and sniffing, but not seriously hunting. I would guess it was about 20" high at the back. I'm wondering if you know of jaguars in the area and if the age(size) of the animal would be correct for this time of year. If not, what else might it have been?

Thanks. Marty

Type: Request

Regarding: Other

Phone:

**Eric Gardner**

**From:** Eric Gardner  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 06, 2011 11:05 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Send Comments; James Driscoll; Tim Snow; Lin Piest  
**Subject:** FW: Jaguar sighting

Mr. Barron,

Thank you for contacting the Arizona Game and Fish Department with your information. I know you contacted AGFD due to the habitat connectivity you describe and due to our recent report of a jaguar sighting. However, since you live in California, I also encourage you to contact the California Fish and Game Department or your local Fish and wildlife Service office when you have unusual wildlife sightings such as the one you report. They may be interested in your print casts. Feel free to send me photos of the prints if you have any, as I can at least identify them to feline vs. canine for you. Just a side note, what appears to be black coloration (color phase) of animals is usually just a trick of low-light conditions. I am not saying your observation was not the exception, but to my knowledge, there has never been a documented case of a black color phase mountain lion or jaguar in the US. That includes data from decades of government trapping programs and hunter harvest. Even so, we annual receive many, perhaps even dozens, of such reports from the public. None have ever produced a picture. I myself have seen several lions in the wild and once saw a mountain lion cross the road in front of me near where I live, which is in a city that produces several "black phase" lion reports annually. I was with my wife and was able to say to her – "look, there is one of those elusive black cats, but watch when it comes into our lights and it will be a regular one." Sure enough, it was a regular, tawny colored lion once our headlights were on it. I think that it is actually a normal biological function of their coats. They are predators that hunt at night and need to sneak up on prey. As such, their coats are not very reflective and seem to absorb light or otherwise blend in with the shadows. As always, I never say never and realize there are exceptions to every rule. That does not change the fact that it must be a very rare thing indeed when you look at all the history of specimens examined and none are a black phase. It would be of great interest to our Department if a black specimen was ever documented by physical evidence such as photographs or video, etc.

So, all that was just for your information – you are the best person to judge what you saw and I leave it to you to make your own assessment.

Take care, and thanks again for contacting us.

**Eric Gardner**  
**Nongame Branch Chief**  
**Arizona Game and Fish Department**  
**5000 W. Carefree Highway**  
**Phoenix, AZ 85086-5000**  
**Work: (623) 236-7507**

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Saturday, December 03, 2011 8:55:10 PM

To: Send Comments

Subject: Jaguar sighting

Auto forwarded by a Rule

Name: Jose A. Barron

City: Bonita

State: CA

Zip: 91902

Area: Bonita, California

Email: [REDACTED]

Subject: Jaguar sighting

Comment: To Whom It May Concern: Just an interesting anecdote for you: I live in Bonita, California, which is a semi-rural community in south San Diego County. My home is surrounded by a golf course to the south, a state regional park to the east, a large reservoir to the north and some homes and a highway to the west. Most homes around here are 1/2 acre or better and many homeowners have horses on their property. The regional park is a natural, mostly uninhabited corridor which extends about 50 miles to the Cuyamaca and Laguna mountains and the desert past that to Imperial County and Arizona. So what? There have been many sightings of all kinds of wildlife including mountain lions in our neighborhood. Well last year my neighbor and I spotted two jaguars, black phase, in our back yards. There apparently was a mother and cub traveling through our area. They hung around for about two months, ate about 20 or my neighbor's cats and got rid of all the coyotes in our area. On one night when I took my small dog out to pee about 1:30 a.m. the young panther chased my dog right in front of me about 6 feet from me and actually caught my dog by his shoulders. When that happened I rushed the animal, which was about 4 feet long from nose to tail, I screamed and waved my arms at it so it let my dog go and calmly left my back yard, seemingly unafraid and looking back at me like saying, I'll be back. A couple of days later, after a rain storm, I noticed some big cat prints in the mud and I made plaster of Paris casts. The prints are about 3 1/2" wide. From the other prints in the mud, the big cat was hunting house cats and actually got one at least. Anyway, just thought I'd share this with you. Jose A. Barron 619-250-0401 I value and appreciate your friendship; In God We Trust

Type: Comment

Regarding: Raptor Sitings/Questions

Phone: [REDACTED]